EARTH FIRST!

YULE EDITION

December 21, 1985 Vol. VI, No. II

THE *RADICAL* ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL TWO DOLLARS

The Highjacking of Friends of the Earth

Exclusive to Earth First!:
An Interview with David Brower on the Fate of Friends of the Earth
by Mike Roselle

EF!: What the hell is going on at FOE?

Brower: A razor-thin majority of the board of directors has resolved to move headquarters from San Francisco to Washington, to dump almost all the staff in San Francisco, and to "reconsolidate" as a Washington-DC focussed lobbying outfit. I have suggested they rename the group "Friends of the Potomac."

EF!: So what's wrong with that?

Brower: What isn't? Washington already has the Environmental Policy Center and Institute, The Wilderness Society, the Sierra Club, the National Audubon Society, Environmental Action, and several others who could fill a small theater with environmental lobbyists. Another lobbying-only organization is about the last thing the earth needs.

EF!: Back up a minute. When did FOE start, and why?

Brower: I left the Sierra Club in May 1969 following a series of disagreements I won't bore you with. We incorporated FOE on July 11 that same year. From the beginning FOE was to be lean, quick, flexible, and international. On the last we've had no little success – there are now independent FOE groups in 30 countries. None, I may add, is a professional lobby.

It's not that we don't acknowledge that Washington is one of the more important places on earth, for better or worse. Much mischief is hatched in Congress and the executive agencies, and good work is accomplished there, too. FOE's first employee served for five years as its Washington, DC, representative, and he was one of the best lobbyists in the business. The difference now is that the board majority is eliminating just about everyone in San Francisco (with collective experience of more than 100 years not counting mine) and rebuilding in Washington with a staff with a cumulative experience of around ten years. All FOE is to become support staff for a handful of lobbyists.

EF!: What about international work?

Brower: This is where our greatest loss will be sustained. The move will eliminate FOE programs and adjunct programs concerning marine mammals, Antarctica, tropical rainforests, nuclear proliferation, pesticides, and others.

EF!: What do FOE's members think about all this?

Brower: No one knows.

Let me say that again. No one knows. The board majority has been asked repeatedly to pose the question to the members, and they have refused. There is a provision in our bylaws for turning over big questions to the members, but the board majority has taken refuge in legal evasions and has refused to consult the members. Their argument is that this is simply an administrative adjustment – moving functions from one city to another. It is far more. It is the destruction of FOE as we've known it. The board majority went so far as to file suit against me to try to keep me quiet. If your tape recorder is working, I'd say they haven't quite succeeded.

EF!: So what are you doing about it?

Brower: My colleagues on the minority side have asked the court to block the move to Washington pending a decision by the members. We've promised to resign if the members ratify the move in a fair election. Still, the majority resists letting the members decide. Indeed, they've gone ahead using my name and bragging about programs that no longer exist. I've demanded that they cease using my name, but they refuse to do even that.

EF!: Who's at the bottom of all this, Exxon? Cap Weinberger?

Brower: Whatever corporate influence there may be I have no idea, though I doubt that anything could surprise me now. Somebody must be happy with the loss of our energy and arms-control leadership. Let's just say that the cast of characters resembles very closely the group that threw me off the board altogether in July 1984 – a move that was rescinded because it was illegal.

The people arguing for the retreat to the Potomac are Executive Director Karl Wendelowski (who has not yet presented any analysis of the cost of the move), Geoff Webb (appointed Washington Director by Wendelowski), Dan Luten (President), Paul Burks, Wes Jackson, and Alan Gussow (vice presidents), Edwin Matthews (secretary, served as president from 1979 to 1980, when he was voted out), Ann Roosefelt, Liz Raisbeck (former Washington Director), and Mark Terry (founder of a remarkable Seattle school whose directors ousted him, whereupon his directors were ousted and he returned).

I suppose this is in part a reflection of the divergent paths of the country's main environmental groups. Many – Sierra, Wilderness, Audubon – are opting for the professional manager type of administration. Others – Earth First!, Greenpeace – have stuck with what someone called the passionate amateur. FOE falls somewhere in between: we hired a professional manager who flopped. Now we amateurs want another chance.

EF!: You say FOE's members haven't been consulted. If there are any FOE members reading this, what would you ask them to do?

Brower: Write, call, wire FOE board members (1045 Sansome Street, San Francisco, CA 94111 or 530 Seventh St SE, Washington, DC 20003) expressing your attitude toward this move. Alert reporters to the mess. And keep in touch with Friends of FOE, 40 Stevenson Ave., Berkeley, CA 94708.

EARTH FIRST! OPPOSES WILDERNESS WATER DIVERSIONS

Terrorist Senator Bill Armstrong holds Colorado Wilderness hostage.

By Skywalker

Recently, Colorado Earth First!ers used street theater to protest the plans of Senator Bible-Bill Armstrong to dam wild Colorado rivers in order to provide water for lawns in the Denver area. The following describes the protest:

On the sidewalk, under the smoggy skies, a toothy sucker in a black cape shrieked with fiendish glee as he clasped and bit indiscriminately among the plants and animals assembled to plead their case before Backwards Bill Armstrong. The Development Dracula found the lifeblood of the Wilderness irresistibly delicious. Without water projects, how could his dead world be maintained? When "Bad Bill" Bill appeared, armed like Rambo, he began to brutally subdue the Wilderness. He tied his hostages to a telephone pole and delivered a terrifying proclamation:

Whereas the people of Colorado and the US consider the wild areas of Colorado to be a national treasure, I, William Armstrong, have taken the Colorado wilderness hostage. You may consider me a religious fanatic because I worship the uncontrolled, cancerous growth of suburbs and industry. Nevertheless, greed is my religion and I will not release the Colorado wilderness until I have received its water rights. Nevermind that a wilderness without water is a dead wilderness. I demand this water, and I will not rest until Colorado resembles the wastelands of New Jersey. Corporate America stands behind me in this action. Make no mistake, this is an act of terrorism. The wilderness hostages

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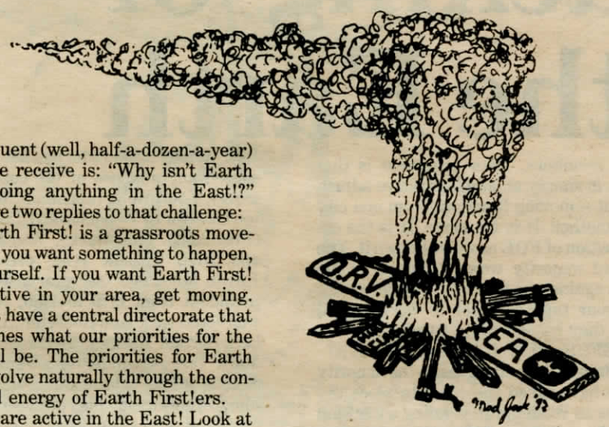
EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

***Earth First!* Journal is published eight times a year.**
Subscription is $15 a year.
POB 5871 * TUCSON, ARIZONA 85703 * (602)622-1371

Around the Campfire



A frequent (well, half-a-dozen-a-year) letter we receive is: "Why isn't Earth First! doing anything in the East!?" There are two replies to that challenge:

1) Earth First! is a grassroots movement. If you want something to happen, do it yourself. If you want Earth First! to be active in your area, get moving. We don't have a central directorate that determines what our priorities for the year will be. The priorities for Earth First! evolve naturally through the concern and energy of Earth First!ers.

2) We are active in the East! Look at what has been happening in Texas over the last year. (Now, I know that to you all from New Hampshire, Texas isn't the East, but if you were raised a New Mexican like me, Texas is *The East.*) Further east than Texas, we now have active Earth First! groups in Maine and Virginia (see articles in this issue), and more coming along.

Two major national projects of Earth First! are also prime fodder for you folks east of the shining mountains: our international rainforest campaign and our new acid rain campaign. The rainforest campaign is gearing up considerably after the hugely successful (and Earth First! inspired) San Francisco Rainforest Conference last month (see article). No matter where you live — towering trees, towering cactus, or towering skyscrapers — you can get involved.

Arizona Earth First! is sponsoring a North American Acid Rain Conference in January which will be designed to produce direct action to dramatize this most important issue. A full report on the EF! Acid Rain Task Force will soon be forthcoming in these pages. If you're tired of the sizzle in the rain, get involved.

Now I just received a letter from Utah saying, "Why aren't you doing anything . . . ."

The Willamette National Forest in Oregon just published a nice little booklet on Earth First! and "Ecotage." Write 'em and get a copy: POB 10607, Eugene, OR 97440. One of the pleas the Freddies make in their report is that we make our views known through "legitimate" channels. This has been a major complaint voiced by timber beasts and others in articles on Earth First! in *The Wall Street Journal* and the *Chicage Tribune* this year: that we don't communicate our views except through protest signs and tree spikes, that we don't make use of the administrative, judicial and legislative options to state our case.

Hogwash. It was an Earth First! lawsuit (in conjunction with the Oregon Natural Resources Council) that stopped the Bald Mountain road in the Kalmiopsis. Earth First! administrative appeals have stopped two dozen timber sales in Idaho National Forest RARE II areas this year. It was Earth First! money that sent Dr. Tony Povilitis of the Campaign for Yellowstone's Bears back to the recent Congressional hearings on the GRIZ in Washington. Earth First! wilderness proposals and positions on other issues are sent in great number to bureaucrats and politicians. Earth First! in Oregon is sparkplugging efforts to get Congressional action on the Hells Canyon Wilderness proposals.

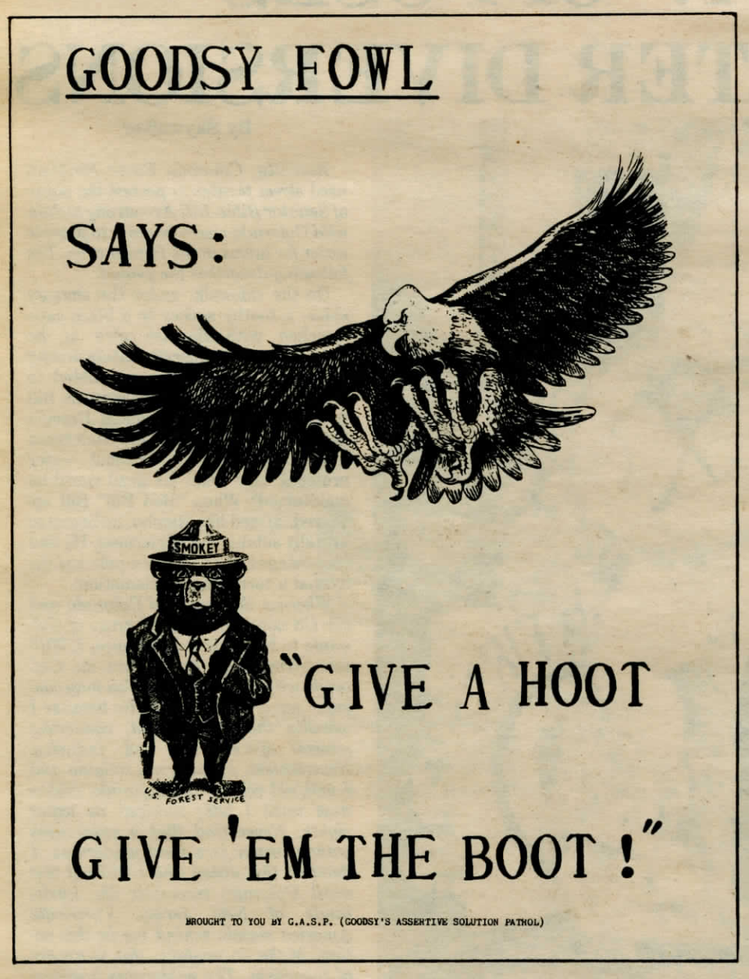
Nonetheless, Earth First! probably needs to put greater emphasis on developing visionary proposals for the preservation and rehabilitation of natural diversity, and on using the system to advance such proposals. If you don't want to hang out in trees, sit in front of bulldozers, march around with protest signs, or creep about at night, operate as an Earth First!er within the system — but from an ethical, visionary base. Confront the powers that be with sanity politely but uncompromisingly stated.

In this season of good cheer, even a grinch like me needs to make a few thank-you's. I particularly appreciate the good work John Davis, Assistant Editor of this journal, has been doing. Much of what you see in these pages is his work. My continued sanity is also his responsibility. Thanks also to Pete Rand who has been filling orders and otherwise helping out around the office here in Tucson the last month. Pete will be heading back to the Redding, California, area to organize EF! projects there.

Thanksgiving weekend saw a little EF! rendezvous in Big Bend National Park where the gang from Tucson, Bart and Julie from Alaska, Nagasaki from everywhere, and a bunch of Texas Earth First!ers got together for hikes, floats, music, and, unfortunately for me, Tequilla.

One final note: For all you Earth First!ers in the Ohio region, I will be speaking at the Hunting Valley Campus of the University School (2785 Som Center Road, Chagrin Falls OH 44022) at 7:30 PM Wednesday, January 29th as part of their Environmental Issues Week. I hope to see some of you there. Maybe have a beer afterwards, maybe help start an Ohio EF! group.

Dave Foreman



SCHEDULE

***Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal* is published 8 times a year on the old pagan European nature holidays: Samhain (November 1), Yule (December 21 or 22), Brigid (February 2), Eostar (March 21 or 22), Beltane (May 1), Litha (August 1 or 22), Lughnasadh (August 1), and Mabon (September 21 or 22). Deadlines for articles are three weeks before the cover date (October 10, December 1, January 10, March 1, April 10, June 1, July 10, and September 1). The newspaper is mailed 3rd class on the cover date. First Class delivery is available for $5 extra a year. Airmail delivery overseas is available for $10 extra a year.**

EARTH FIRST!
Yule Edition
Dec. 1, 1985
Vol. VI, No. II

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Although we do not accept the authority of the hierarchical state, nothing herein is intended to run us afoul of its police power. *Agents provocateurs* will be dealt with by the Grizzly Defense League on the Mirror Plateau.

Contributions are welcomed and should be typed or carefully printed, *double spaced*, and sent with an SASE if return is requested. Art or photographs (black & white prints preferred, color prints or slides OK) are eagerly sought to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested. No payment is offered except for extra copies of the issue.

All material should be sent to Earth First!, PO Box 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703, except for poetry which should go to Art Goodtimes, Box 1008, Telluride, CO 81435.

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POB 235, Ely, Nevada 89301 (702)289-8636: Correspondence with Wildcat Annie.

POB 5871, Tucson, Arizona 85703 (602)622-1371: Letters to the Editor, Manuscripts, Art, Photographs, etc. for *Earth First!;* Subscriptions, Changes of Address, Inquiries; Merchandise Orders; Clippings; General Correspondence; Correspondence with Dave Foreman or John Davis.

POB 1008, Telluride, Colorado 81435 (303)728-4301: Poetry, Correspondence with Art Goodtimes.

Please send any newspaper clippings mentioning Earth First! or dealing with subjects of interest to us at POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703. Clippings about monkeywrenching of any kind would be appreciated. Thank you!

The Post Office does not forward 3rd Class Mail but they do charge us 30 cents apiece to send us change of address information. Please send us your change of address immediately so we can send $ where the action is instead of to the Post Office. Some people using clever aliases are not receiving their copies of *Earth First!*. Be sure to notify your mailman that "Attila the Hun" or "The Animal" receives mail at your address.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Lengthy letters may be edited for space requirement. Letters should be typed or carefully printed and double-spaced, using only one side of a sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate if you want your name and location to appear or if you wish to remain anonymous. Send letters to POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703.

Dear *EF!*

I have noticed in recent issues of *EF!* the name Adolf Murie mentioned more than once. I know the name Olaus J. Murie, biologist and wilderness advocate — one of the driving forces of The Wilderness Society. Olaus was handpicked by Bob Marshall to serve on the ruling council of TWS; he later became its director and then president.

Both these wilderness biologists apparently spent alot of time in Alaska during their lives. Are Adolf and Olaus two different people or one-in-the-same?

Moses Harris
Northern California

Editor's reply: Adolf and Olaus Murie were brothers.

Dear Editor,

I am putting together a book of personal stories by people who are acting alone or in small non-structured groups to affect social change. I would like to hear from anyone who is personally taking an active stand in the areas of nuclear weapons, hunger, environmental issues (eco-saboteurs especially), women, minority, gay, and worker rights. Stories are welcome on other social issues as well, and can also describe the efforts of someone other than yourself whose story you feel should be told.

The main thesis of the book is that confrontational politics on a small scale is the path to real social change, that individual acts of courage are the proper and necessary response to a political system which is no longer representative of people's needs. My feeling is that thousands of these acts of courage are occurring every day.

I encourage anyone who is personally involved in a struggle for social change to write and tell me about your experiences.

Donald Currie
4006 25th St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

To the Editor,

This morning as I rode home I heard a horrendous cry. It was a desert destroyer doing major destruction to the innocent plants and animals. With careless ease it slashed back and forth amongst the creosote, paloverde trees and numerous cactus. A dove flew overhead, in terror, from the scene. I felt as if a sledge hammer had slammed into my stomach. I wouldn't let the murderer see me cry so I turned my horse toward home and rode away. Soon the tears did come and wouldn't stop. Land of my childhood, land of magic, so rare and fragile, what takes hundreds of years to grow and moments to destroy. I want to say that I am so thankful that Earth First! exists and that other people care about the earth. I am not alone and that fact gives me strength to continue. I especially enjoy reading *Blade Ruiner*, great art work! To all the tree sitters, bulldozer stoppers, blade ruiners, and all earth warriors — Thank You!!

A desert warrior
Prickly Pear

Dear SFB,

Imagine my chagrin! After years of struggling to achieve revolutionary purity in the politics of language . . . is it he/she, s/he,herm? . . . I thought I had finally gotten it down. Then, with one heedless, unprofessional, medium-height chauvinist sentence, I stamped on Jimmy G's "mildly obtrusive" (see Klinkman, *Journal of Podiatry* Vol 1, Oct, 1953) size 13 (or is it 14?) toes and violated the politics of size.

To have oppressed a fellow/sister/sibling EF!er . . . the shame of it . . . to have been consequently vilified as "a nice enough person" . . . Oh, Jimmy G, how deep your pain must be! If you are still with us . . . all 6'6" of you . . . please hear my apology. I have only one excuse for my behavior . . . for years, men have tried to convince me that 4" was 6"; so I just automatically took a tuck in my estimate of your height. Surely, we are *both* victims of sizeism. Let us join in the struggle to defeat this ugly blight.

Venceremos, amigo,
Mary Sojourner

Dear Friends,

I just had to write to say how happy I am to be on board! A friend turned me on to the *Earth First! Journal* and I have been a member for a couple of months. I can only say that it is like finding a brother or spiritual twin.

I have belonged to the Sierra Club for more than a decade and Greenpeace for several years. These are wonderful organizations and I will remain a staunch supporter of their work. Nonetheless, I always felt some place inside was unreached; a place previously touched only by the writings of Native Americans and a few extraordinary writers (i.e. Bill Eastlake). Perhaps it was the gushy emotionalism of the Greenpeace appeals and the overly cerebral (dare I say Yuppie) approach of the Sierra Club.

Whatever the reason, when I read articles like David Lucas on the Colorado water diversions, I know I have found people who speak the same language and touch the same Earth as I.

Yours in Peace,
Alistair Benjamin

Hey folks!

I only make 5 G per year, why should I have to scrape up 15 bucks again just so you unshaven shifty-eyed outlaws can work out your frustration on big machines? I know, I know —'cause if I don't no one else will. Well you may be honored to know your rag is the only wood pulp product I subscribe to, and read front to back. Sorry to tell you how I recycle it, but we're all waste in the end, n'est ce pas?

Anyway, since I've gone to this trouble, I think I'll buy a few of your stick-on aphorisms. My old truck needs a little body work and that vinyl really does a decent job. I know, I know — I'm helping to save what's left of an ecosystem on this mudball. Maybe. Doesn't hurt to try.

Gaia,
B. Carter
Canterbury, NH

Dear Friends,

The concept of reclaiming land which has been overrun by humans and returning it to its natural state is not a new one. This instance, the establishing of the "New Forest" by William the Conqueror almost a thousand years ago, shows how long lasting such a thing can be:

William spent his happiest hours — and days and weeks — hunting, and in the England of today there is no more picturesque reminder of the Norman Conquest than the New Forest. In Hampshire he found tens of thousands of thinly settled acres which he took as a private hunting preserve. Not satisfied, he "afforested" additional large areas by evicting some 2,000 men, women and children from about twenty villages and a dozen hamlets. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle states, "He preserved the harts and boars and loved the stags as much as if he were their father."

(National Geographic, 1966, "The Norman Conquest", p.248)

The New Forest remains today one of the greatest tracts of open and relatively wild land in Hampshire, as well as one of the few large areas of forest left in southern England altogether.

The concept of reclaiming land currently occupied by humans, and allowing it to revert naturally back to its original condition, is an important addition to contemporary environmental planning. We can no longer think only of protecting remaining unoccupied or unexploited areas. There are not enough of these left. We must begin to restore the natural balance between humans and the rest of the earth's plant and animal species by actively reclaiming those areas which have been misappropriated and misused by human beings.

John McClellan
Boulder, CO

. . . Back, Igor; down, boy! nice creature; nice Igor . . . we're friends, right?. . . OUCH!!! . . . o.k, o.k, I'll pay up! just call him off! *Please* put him back in his cage — quickly! Here's the $15!

There, that's better. This unpleasantness wasn't actually necessary, was it? I mean, I *was* going to pay you. Honest! No, I mean it; Trust me, would I lie to *you*???

Matthew Bell
Ojai, CA

Dave Foreman:

I liked the article *Dreaming Big Wilderness*, a good reminder of what we are all working for. It is important during the course of day to day distraction, to lift the eyes and mind and look towards the ultimate goal.

I also like EF! honesty. You don't confuse me with a bunch of 'crap mail.' How sincere can an environmental organization be when they try to peddle everything from teddy bears with boots and backpack to smoked salmon gift packs?

When I meet an EF! person or see a bumpersticker I know I have encountered a committed environmentalist. Some organizations actually run a sweepstakes to attract new members. Do they really expect to appeal to useful, sincere people?

I can handle defeat. When something planned by EF! doesn't quite work out I can usually find out why. You don't have to shout. A sentence or two in the Journal is enough. For bad or good, I feel like I know where EF! is at.

I cannot handle the big organization approach. Their successes are overemphasized, their defeats almost totally hushed up. Without any regrouping or creative criticism their members are urged on to a new issue. Or worse yet the member is lied to. He is told a victory has been won, even if it hasn't.

Many Ef! people must be where they are now because of disgust at the above tactics. I'm certainly fed up.

Perhaps James Watt was right when he talked about an "unquestioning membership." Have the big organizations, in their search for power (money) and big membership, diluted the people quality of their groups?

Well EF! isn't going that way. You have my confidence and respect. Sign me up again for another subscription.

Thanks
Louis
Medford, OR

Editors:

Ah, blessed nakedness! Few things on this planet are more enjoyable than a bare-assed soak in a mountain stream in August. I've long suspected that anyone who carries a bathing suit into the wilderness is a bit of a fool. Who would want to wrap themselves in fabric when they have an opportunity to gain a full tan from top to toe?

Unfortunately, it's becoming difficult to find skinny-dipping sites in North America. Local prudes are organizing from Florida to California in order to put an end to nude beaches. State officials in New York have adopted an anti-nudity law that's so strict that it's now illegal to publicly breast-feed an infant in Albany or Rochester. Federal rangers on Cape Cod run regular sweeps during the summer in order to "round up the nudies" on secluded beaches. Meanwhile, porno magazines are being openly displayed in drugstores and supermarkets while topless bars and strip joints continue to flourish throughout America. The message is clear: When nudity can be commercialized and exploited, it's tolerated. When nudity is enjoyed without apology, exploitation, or payment, local Puritans demand that the skinny-dippers be punished.

Fortunately, there's a citizens group in America that's working to keep public beaches and wilderness areas open to clothes-optional recreation. The Naturists describe themselves as being a Sierra Club for skinny-dippers, but it would be more accurate to think of the Nats as being in the same category as Earth First! on environmental issues. The Naturists are willing to openly say "No" to the Cotton Mather-types who want to run America's parks. Naturists have practiced non-violent civil disobedience in several states in order to challenge anti-nudity laws. Bit by bit, the Naturists are establishing themselves as a national force working to free America's beaches. The Naturists have campaigned against pornography and sexual exploitation. The organization encourages people of all types to join together to change American attitudes towards nude recreation.

For information on the Naturists contact: Naturists, P.O.Box 132, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

One final thought: If Catholic France, Orthodox Greece, and Communist Yugoslavia can accept nude beaches, why so much fuss in the United States? It's time to put Park Rangers to work protecting wilderness ares and wildlife rather than chasing after bare-assed swimmers and topless matrons. America, grow up! You have nothing to lose but their prudery.

Yours truly,
Henry Anasazi
Santa Fe, NM

Dear whoever you are Editor,

Pass us off for dead if you will, but there are close to two hundred thousand acres of wilderness already designated between the two Virginias, and as much left over from the RARE II reccomendations. Granted, not a large chunk by the standards of you big boys in the West, but then again, our mountains are not so big. We boys in the small states like Virginia are in desperate need of help. The Freddies want to clearcut 60% of our National Forests real soon. Small fish to you big boys, but you will never clean up the Mississippi Basin without some help from the East. Not to mention that THE BAY yet remains to be a focus for all you big boys. If you want to stop the massacre in the West, stop applying those bandaids. The whole movement has been in the emergency ward too long. Let's start talking about some restoration. We have a 40,000 acre Wilderness in West Virginia to connect with 93,000 acres of the Shenandoah National Park.

Let's do it.
JDAV,
Washington, DC

Dear Friends,

I'm not sure how often you folks out there climb down out of your trees to eyeball the latest *Wall Street Journal* (say, to see if L-P's stock has plummeted or some such good tidings) so I'm sending along the enclosed clipping regarding some eek-o-tage some folks seem to be perpetrating in our nation's forests. Not that I think there may be any relationship between you folks' call to arms in defense of Mother Earth and these rep-re-*hen*-sible activities conducted by some *row*-di-cal *fringe* elements, but all of us down here at the National Capital Garden Club and Moderate Enviro-Apologist organization jist thought you might want to see Dave Foreman quoted in a *real* (i.e. Eastcoast capitalist establishment) newspaper regarding this terribul, terribul state of affairs. Funny thing, though, *WSJ* never *once* stopped to ask *why* people risk life and limb spiking trees to confound the timber interests. But then, I guess there's no money to be made in such philo-*soph*-i-cal specu-*la*-tion.

No Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth!

Yers truly,
Let's hear it for anonymity!

COLORADO (continued)

will not be released until the following demands are met: 1) All wilderness streams and rivers must be sucked dry and given to Aurora, so that it can expand into Kansas. 2) All water not used for suburban expansion shall be given to environmentally destructive projects like those of the Synfuels Corporation so it can continue laying waste to Colorado's wilderness areas. 3)The few drops left by Synfuels Corporation, if any, will be used by welfare ranchers on public lands to turn elk habitat into overgrazed cow pastures.

Things looked grim for the fauna and flora, tied to the telephone pole. They waved their Honk For Wilderness sign. People in cars that cost under $6745 honked readily. One lady rolled down the window so her toddlers could meet the bear. Then, out of nowhere, was it a spotted owl? A golden eagle? No! It was the Earth Ranger! Earth Ranger routed the forces of darkness with a few well-placed rubber darts. Just to be sure, the creatures drove a wooden stake into Dracula's dehydrated heart. Happily, the stake was connected to one of Nicholas Brown's terrific signs — ARMSTRONG SUCKS THE BLOOD FROM WILDERNESS (in dripping color).

Armstrong and Strang, sagebrush rebels, are making a states' rights outcry of this. They seek to abrogate the legal process to prevent Wilderness from having its rightful day in Colorado's water courts. The legislation proposed by Armstrong and Strang would set a catastrophic precedent. Watch for similar moves in your state. Remember that reserved water rights for Wilderness might be the one tool by which congressional and presidentially mandated exceptions to the Wilderness Act, e.g. for water projects, could be legally resisted. We have several such battles looming in Colorado, as the empire makes its big move for mega-obscene growth along the Front Range.

Bombard these madmen with calls, cards and letters — water for wilderness, water for life!!

Vampire senator Bill Armstrong prepares to sink his teeth into a Colorado wilderness trout.

BACKGROUND FACTS

Senator Armstrong and his cohort, Congressman Mike Strang, are engaged in a campaign which could compromise all designated Wilderness in the US. These villains are holding the Colorado Wilderness Bill hostage by insisting that language be inserted therein to eliminate reserved water rights for Wilderness. In addition, Strang introduced a bill in committee on November 6, 1985, to deny water rights to Wilderness and National Parks in Nevada. Federal reserve water rights have been upheld in US courts since 1908 to protect Indian Reservations, National Parks, National Forests, Recreation Areas, and Wildlife Refuges. These lands are to be allowed enough water to provide for the purposes for which they were established. In Wilderness this means minimum stream flows and lake levels. But, as Armstrong discovered, Wilderness had never been awarded reserved water rights in court. That is, until Judge Kane's historic decision of November 26, 1985, in District Court in Denver.

Alarmed by the failure of the Forest Service to protect water rights for Wilderness, the Sierra Club filed suit to legally establish the existence of such rights, and to force the Forest Circus, against its will, to enter Colorado water court to claim those rights. Judge John Kane Jr. ruled that these rights do indeed exist, saying "without water, the wilderness would become deserted wastelands." However, Kane found no violation of a "public-trust doctrine" in the Freddies' lack of initiative. Although "dismayed by federal defendants' benign neglect of this issue," Kane did not uphold the Sierra Club's contention that the government illegally, and capriciously took no action to claim water rights. This despite the imminent closure of the window of opportunity for entering Colorado's statewide water adjudication process.

Sadly, the FS is not required by Kane's decision to enter Colorado water court on behalf of Wilderness. The Freds must come up with a plan to protect their water resources by April 1, 1986. The federal fatocracy has argued that there are ways other than going to court to accomplish this purpose. It is likely that he FS will condemn and purchase the water rights for Wilderness, even though they plead a shortage of staff and funding for going to court over water rights. Yet a legal and political nightmare will result if condemnation is attempted in Colorado or anywhere else in the West, so, in effect, the FS is escaping their duty to obtain Wilderness water rights.

The Circus claims that it will deny rights of way and permits for projects on federal lands that might threaten Wilderness water, but this claim is deceitful. Armstrong has already written legislation to limit federal authority in this area. Furthermore, the FS could not stop diversions upstream of Wilderness as long as the development occurred outside of National Forest boundaries. Were they not so pro-development, the FS might be able to use trespass lawsuits as a legal resort to block some water diversions, but to truly protect Wilderness water, the FS must obtain Wilderness water rights, which it does not want to do.

It seems as if the Mountain States Legal Foundation (MSLF, James Watt's Frankenstein's Monster) must be giving free secret legal advice to our nature nazis. In fact, right after Kane's ruling was issued, Casey Shpall of MSLF was quoted in the *Rocky Mountain News* as follows, "He certainly gave the government the option not to claim water rights, if they can figure out another measure to protect the areas."

Adopt a BLM Wilderness!

The Sierra Club and The Wilderness Society are conducting an Adopt-a-Wilderness program, in which individual environmentalists will explore, study, and seek to protect Bureau of Land Management units that have been or should be designated as Wilderness. This program offers ecologists an excellent opportunity to become active in protecting one or more of their local wild areas. Simply choose your favorite area; learn its topography; find where it has been encroached upon by developments; communicate with state coordinators concerning appropriate boundaries for Wilderness designation; write to the BLM recommending the area as Wilderness and telling why it must be preserved; and monitor the area to make sure that the scoundrels in the BLM do not allow the area to be ravaged by the land despoilers. To learn more about the program, contact your state coordinator:

Arizona
Joni Bosh, Arizona Wilderness Coalition, 2127 E Osborn, Phoenix, AZ 85016 (602-956-4390)

California
California Wilderness Coalition, Box 429, Davis, CA 95616 (916-758-0380)
California Desert Conservation Area
Scott Simons, POB 1062, Phelan, CA 92371 (619-868-6934)

Colorado
Sharyl Kinnear, POB 204, Grand Junction, CO 81502 (303-245-1191)

Idaho
Brian Schaeffer, Committee for Idaho's High Desert, Box 463, Boise, ID 83701 (208-377-9389)

Montana
John Gatchell, Montana Wilderness Association, POB 635, Helena, MT 59624 (406-443-7350)

Nevada
Roger Scholl, POB 9096, Reno, NV 89507 (702-323-1223)

New Mexico
Steve Marlatt, 2422 S Espina #32, Las Cruces, NM 88001 (505-526-0934)

Oregon
Don Tryon, POB 848, Bend, OR 97709 (503-388-0089)

Utah
Jim Catlin, 1120 S Windsor St. Salt Lake City, UT 84105 (801-531-7552)

Washington
Jean Durning, The Wilderness Society, 1424 4th Ave. #822, Seattle, WA 98101 (206-624-6430)

Wyoming
Mike Massie, Wyoming Chapter of Sierra Club, Rt. 62, Box 164, South Pass City, WY 82520 (307-332-6506)

West Potrillo Mts WSA, New Mexico

Photo by Dave Foreman

TEXAS EF! PROTECTS PINE BEETLES, PECANS AND RIVERS

By Coyote

Owing to a letter-writing campaign initiated by Texas Earth First! (and later joined by the Texas Committee on Natural Resources and the Texas Sierra Club), the Forest Service consented to hold a series of public meetings on the abominable Land and Resources Management Plan for the National Forests and Grasslands in Texas. Held in Austin, Houston, Dallas and Nacogdoches in September, the Freddies were given a sampling of the public sentiment they prefer to believe doesn't exist, i.e., that many citizens are sickened by their intensive tree farming practices which leave once-diverse natural forests devastated.

Hundreds of Texans attended the meetings. Some traveled great distances to admonish the Forest Service about even-aged management; some presented lengthy speeches; some read poetry; some read prose; Bill Oliver sang two original songs. The only voice in support of FS policies and the Forest Plan came from the Houston Trail Riders Association (dirt bike thugs) who praised the plans to build 200 miles of ORV trails.

As the public comment period ended, word was that the Regional Forester was deciding on a proposal to commission a Supplementary Alternative to the EIS which would be an "all-aged" management plan. Apparently, this request was made in response to threats of lawsuits against the FS over the lack of a wide range of alternatives in the DEIS. Examples:

1. No uneven-aged management plans were considered in detail;
2. No administrative additions to existing Wilderness (presently only 35,000 acres of National Forest Wilderness for the third-most populous state in the nation);
3. No alternative to planned maximum oil and gas exploration activities;
4. No alternatives to current policies regarding pine beetle control methods (i.e., logging and road-building in Wilderness and other sensitive areas);
5. No alternatives presented which provide for the reintroduction of extirpated species such as bison, bear, or wolves;
6. No alternatives presented which provide for the establishment of biological "linking corridors," or strips of undeveloped, publicly-owned lands which would interconnect Wilderness Areas, wildlife management areas, the proposed Neches River National Scenic Riverway, local and state parks, and the Big Thicket National Preserve.

Should the Regional Forester approve the request to do another alternative, the Final Plan and EIS may not be available until late 1986. At any rate, they won't be able to implement their plans to clearcut 100,000 acres next year as long as the Plan is held up (the entire National Forest System in Texas is only 665,000 acres in size).

David Orr sits chained to a 50" diameter pecan tree on Boggy Creek. Standing guard are residents of the neighborhood. Photo by Donna Zeck.

Meanwhile, the Interdisciplinary Study Team for Pine Beetle Control is preparing an EIS on timber cutting for pine beetle control in Wilderness Areas, specifically in Forest Service Region 8 (Southern Region). The expected release date for this EIS is early January. EF! activists around the nation should write for copies of this paper and make appropriate (derogatory) comments on it during the public comment period. If you live in or near a state which is in Region 8 (Texas to Virginia), write the Forest Supervisor nearest you and request that he hold a series of public meetings (if you use the term "public hearings," they get nervous; you'll get a better response if you just call them meetings) on the proposed continuance of Wilderness timber harvesting. Then, get everyone you know who cares to lambast the Freddies' diabolical anti-Wilderness activities.

Public meetings are already being planned for cities in Texas (Austin, Houston, Dallas and Nacogdoches), but so far no other states have announced any intention to hold such meetings. This would be a good time for Earth First!ers around the South to get busy! Texas EF!ers should contact their local contact people to find out dates, times and places of the planned meetings (probably the first week in February).

In other Texas news, Texas EF! held an impromptu Statewide Rendezvous November 8-10 at the Upland Island Wilderness in Angelina National Forest in East Texas. Despite the fact that it was the first weekend of deer season and there were drunk hunters crawling through the woods, a high time was had by all. Videotaping equipment (furnished free by Austin Community Television) was used to document the devastation caused by "pine beetle control" logging. A mini-documentary for public television, Forest Service public meetings, and local EF! groups to show, is being prepared in the coming month. Contact EF! Austin at POB 7292, U.T. Station, Austin, TX 78713 for info.

Cattle are still being grazed in Texas Wilderness Areas. Several graziers have worked up a sweetheart deal with the Freddies: they have been permitted to drive to round up cattle by hand or on horseback. As of this writing, some of the roads which were ostensibly closed in the Upland Island area after the Texas Wilderness Act was passed are only blocked by a gate which has no lock on it. ORV users also pass through these unlocked gates into the Wilderness. The FS is looking into the matter.

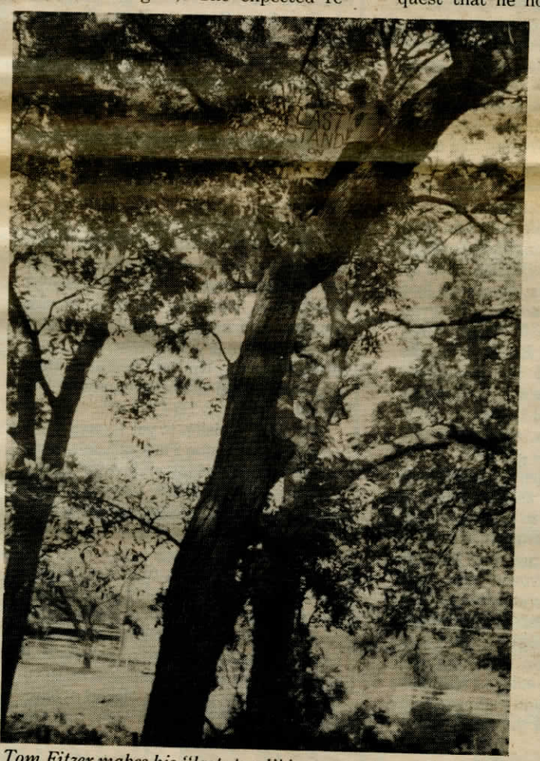
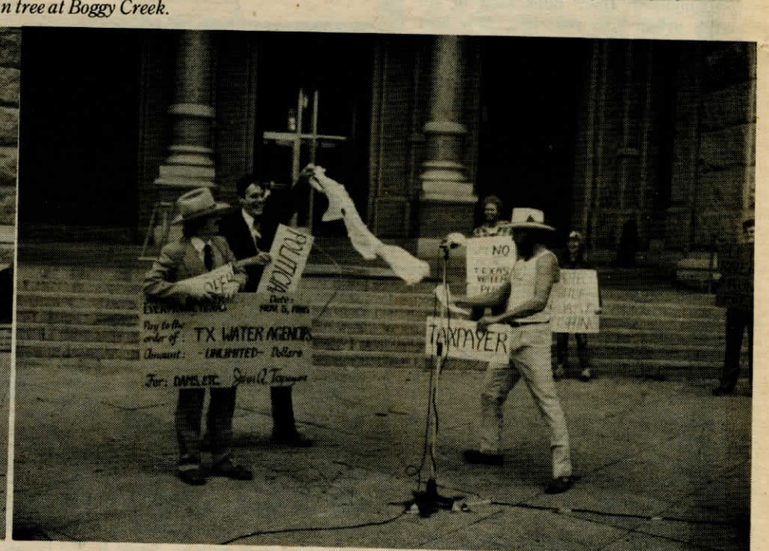


Photo by David Orr.

Tom Fitzer makes his "last stand" in a pecan tree at Boggy Creek.

Bill Oliver at EF! Austin protest against wilderness clearcutting. Photo by Barbara Dugelby.

NO
TEXAS WATER PLAN
TAXPAYER
Pay to the order of: TX WATER AGENCIES
Amount: -UNLIMITED- Dollars
For: DAMS, ETC. Sam'l Taxpayer
THE TEXAS WATER PLAN DO THIS TO ME!



The Governor rips the shirt off The Taxpayer's back at EF! demonstration against the Texas Water Plan at the State Capitol in Austin. Photos by Barbara Dugelby.

Earth First! Bursts Out of the Closet in Southern California

By Randy Seech

Endangered Species Game at SoCal EF! Rendezvous. Photo by Ed Berger.

RENDEZVOUS

Damn! We had a great time at the first Southern California Earth First! Rendezvous. EF!ers started arriving November 1 and by the end of the weekend over 100 people came to our Earth Campaign Rendezvous in Wilderness Gardens Preserve in San Diego County. There was beer drinking, dancing, earth chanting, workshops, sea chanties belted out in beautiful baritone, and moon-howling.

Saturday evening began with a community soup dinner. As the fire grew from a cook fire to a bonfire, Dave Foreman started speaking, as only Dave can do. Dave's harangue over his encounter with Jimmy Watt had me shaking in my birkenstocks. Dave got us so fired up that when he started howling, with everyone joining in, the night sky began to explode! During the howl, a multi-colored shooting star fired over Dave's head. From this celestial sign, I rest assured we must be on the right path with blessings from the universe.

Among the workshops, Nancy and John of Tucson gave us information on EF! organizing, and Dave led a discussion on desert issues. Earth First! will be proposing a California BLM Desert Wilderness Bill far more comprehensive than anything ever offered before, and EF!ers all over California will need to provide input on areas which should be set aside as Wilderness.

Mathew Bell of Ojai led a workshop on Big Mountain and the plight of the traditional Navajo as they face eviction from their lands by the government/mining establishment. Support will be offered to these Native Americans, and EF!er's help may be needed. Ed Berger, Ann Pecora, and Jane Jasper, involved in the walk across the US in next spring's 5000 person Pro-Peace March, talked about their plans.

Torrey Lystra led a workshop on the fight to preserve the Santa Margarita River, the last free flowing river in Southern California. Folks have been fighting the Santa Margarita River Dam Project for years and so far have succeeded; but the struggle continues as developers see fortunes to be made in lake-front properties and increased water supplies for new housing projects. The Santa Margarita is prime riparian habitat for the least Bells vireo, bobcat, mountain lion, and other species in trouble here in California.

SAN DIEGO ACTIONS

EF! students and staff from San Diego State University brought a lot of energy to the Rendezvous. After the Rendezvous, they hit San Diego with actions right before city elections and helped pass Proposition A. Prop A was opposed by developers who pumped bucks into the election, launching a campaign to confuse voters with lies. If the fat cats had been successful, in collusion with the City Council, they would have continued in their bulldozing of the city's urban land reserves. Now however, with Prop A, anytime developers want to invade the reserves they must get voter approval. However, San Diegans must still keep a watchful eye on developers. Hail to those folks who "corrected" the developers' billboards on election eve.

The San Diego group has been hard at work since the election, too. Among the many lagoons feeling pressure from developers is Famosa Slough. This lagoon is in sorry shape. The Army Corps of Engineers built a gate to stop the tides from flooding in and developers have been encouraging fill dumping. The gate was constantly being propped open by activists to allows the tides in, so finally a guard was stationed to keep folks away. Twenty-five EF!ers, dressed like ducks, brought attention to the damaging effects on the lagoon and its waterfowl by marching with signs like, "No more duckbill platitudes, we want action!" Then, the ducks cleaned the lagoon, hauling away truck loads of tires, bottles, and other trash. Their theatrics made quite a splash with the media, including an editorial in a local newspaper condemning them for violating the sanctity of private property! In addition to these actions, EF! San Diego has brought speakers to San Diego State's campus, and they've set up a recycling center on campus.

DESERT ISSUES

While Dave was leading the desert issues workshop, a local desert rat gave us information concerning road closures/openings in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (one of the largest state parks in the US with close to half a million acres). The Park is proposing to close off a mile portion of a long-used 4WD (four-wheel drive) route that leads 30 miles from the town of Borrego Springs north to the town of Anza. The section in question leads through Coyote Creek. In places, the route uses the river bed as a thoroughfare through Lower Willows, a desert oasis used by bighorn sheep, bobcats, people on foot and other sensible creatures. However, it is also used by those knobby-tired monsters. About eight EF!ers from the Rendezvous attended the November state commission hearing in Borrego. The commission heard testimony from desert lovers, rangers, naturalists and ORV (off-road vehicle) groups.

The jeep road invades the least Bells vireo habitat as well as the senses of every living creature in the entire valley. We support the Park in trying to close this portion of the road through Lower Willows. However, the Park people in a misguided compromise move are proposing to re-route traffic around Lower Willows through a gorgeous small dry desert canyon. In spring, this canyon explodes with color of wildflowers and cacti. Bobcat and bighorn sheep use it as a corridor to the river.

We EF!ers proposed the entire area be closed to vehicles. This idea had apparently never occurred to others. Up until that meeting, there were only two proposals:

1. Leave the road through Lower Willows and through Coyote Creek as is — the proposal advocated by the ORV groups.

2. Close the road through the riparian habitat and open a new one up a now beautiful canyon. This is the proposal of the Anza-Borrego Park Service. Many conservationists, Sierra Club, and even some conscientious 4WD folk support this proposal.

But EF! showed them another more logical way:

3. Block the road through Lower Willows, but do not open a new road. This would essentially stop 4WD traffic from the southern entrance of Coyote Canyon. Before the meeting, some goodhearted but visionless folks thought we were asking too much, but after hearing our sensible proposal, several changed their minds, including one of the Park's rangers. Although the ORVers seemed to have the upper hand in the beginning of the meeting, the tide began to turn as people began their testimony for the desert.

The final decision is yet to come. We need letters! Some Park officials want support in preserving and restoring the state's wilderness areas. Let them know we support road closures in Anza-Borrego or anywhere else and we oppose new roads.

This fight over this road is a preliminary to the larger desert issues. EF! will propose huge tracts of BLM desert to be set aside as designated Wilderness. Join us in this fight for Anza-Borrego's Coyote Canyon and join us to establish a truly visionary desert wilderness proposal. Here are ways you can help:

Planning local actions. Photo by Ed Berger.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

***Support our Earth First! Anza-Borrego Park Poposal. Attend the final hearing concerning the road through Coyote Canyon. Write: Dr. Charles Hostler, Chairman, State Parks and Recreation Commission, POB 2390, Sacramento, CA 95811. Tell him to: 1. Support the closure of the jeep road through the Lower Willows and recommend extension of the Wilderness boundaries. 2. Oppose a new road being built to by-pass the Lower Willows. The proposed Wilderness extension should not be bordered by a jeep trail.**

***If you want to join our Anza-Borrego Desert War Council, call me at 714-728-0705, or write me, Randy Seech, POB 1532, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693. Or contact Sidewinder: 230 Upward Trail, Julian, CA 92036 (619-765-2468).**

***If you want to get involved in the California BLM Wilderness Proposal, Contact Dave Foreman in Tucson, or contact me. Please include SASE.**

***To join the fight to save the Santa Margarita River contact: Ed Berger, 9422 El Pueblo Ave, Fountain Valley, CA 92708 (714-963-8805); or Torrey Lystra, 14209 Hwy. 76, Pala, CA 92059 (619-742-1631).**

***If you want to help the Navajo retain their lands, contact: Mathew Bell, 212 1/2 E. Eucalyptus St., Ojai, CA 93023 (805-646-0386).**

***For information on the Pro-Peace March, contact Pro-Peace in LA at 213-653-6245.**

***To get involved with the San Diego EF! group contact: Earth First!, Dept. of Recreation, PSFA, San Diego State U., San Diego, CA 92182 (619-265-5562 extension 5110).**

Randy Seech is an Earth First! activist in Southern California who organized the SoCal EF! Rendezvous. Thanks Randy!

VIRGINIA EF! MEETING

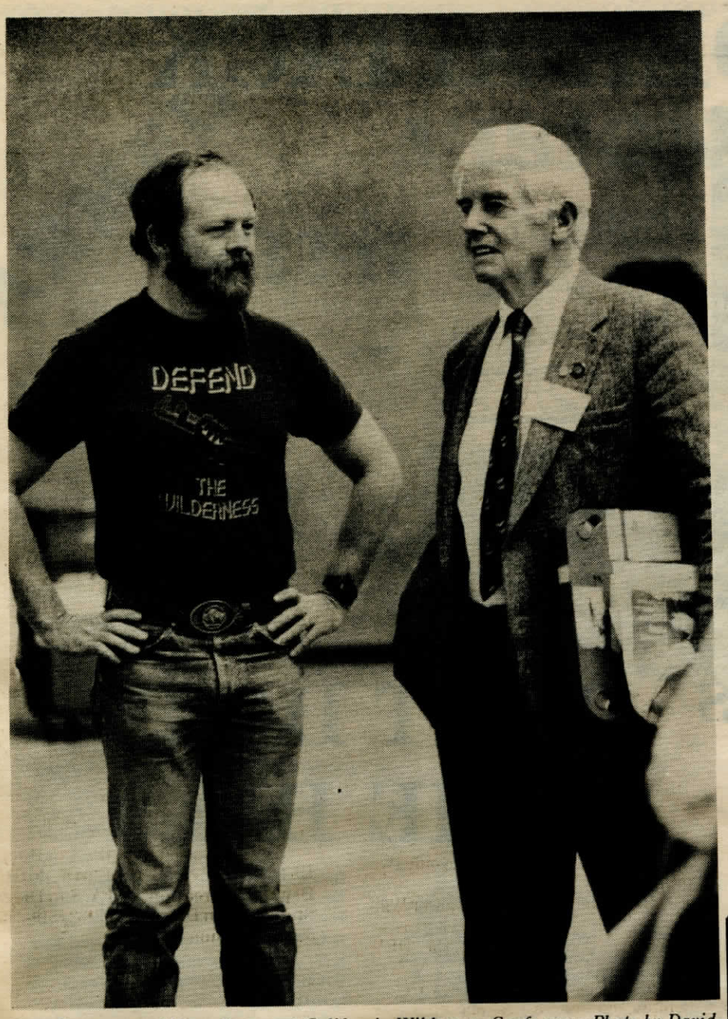
by J. MacDuff

Nine members of Earth First! from Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, DC, held a two-day regional gathering in Virginia's George Washington National Forest on October 5 and 6. The enthusiastic gathering was held in a remote area near the North River — but within the sad sight of a recent 40-acre clear-cut. The group examined nearby wilderness pockets, harvested sections, and the valleys and mountains affected by current Forest Service plans.

Discussions centered on the newly proposed 50-year FS plan for the Washington and Jefferson National Forests in Virginia and the Monongahela National Forest in West Virginia. These three together total more than two million acres and are the largest National Forest region close to the big population centers of the East. Also discussed were the soon-to-be-built Coors brewery complex in Rockingham County, Virginia, bordering Shenandoah National Park; the possibility of linking present forest wilderness islands to create true ecological preserves; and the problem of logging road construction in the forests.

The EF!ers agreed upon several projects: to work on alternatives to the FS 50-year plan (for the George Washington, the initial proposal by FS was to extend harvesting to 85% of the Forest!); to increase public attention to the threat to these vital forests; to work against the Coors' project; and to press vigorously for road closings in the National Forests (at a time when FS is complaining of the cost of maintaining existing roads while proposing to increase new road construction four-fold).

The EF! group will hold future regional gatherings. EF!ers wanting to connect should write or call contact persons listed in the EF! Directory.



Dave Foreman and Dave Brower at California Wilderness Conference. Photo by David Cross.

A Visit To California

By John Davis

In November, Dave Foreman and Nancy Morton and I stormed through California, leaving in their wake a path of bedazzled ecologists awed by Dave's fiery speeches. We began the journey by meeting the Berkeley Greens. While in the Bay Area, Dave made two book-signing appearances (for *Ecodefense*), one of them on the famed Haight Street where 1980s punks have replaced 1960s peaceniks. (See article by Karen Pickett in this issue.)

Fortunately, Dave escaped from the punk San Francisco scene with all his little-remaining hair and in its natural color, for our next stop was at Visalia for the California Wilderness Conference (CWC) where a pink mohawk haircut would have looked conspicuous. The CWC was one of the most significant environmental conferences of the decade. Seven hundred activists representing dozens of groups attended the conference. EF! had a powerful presence there: the Sierra Club came with a proposal to designate as Wilderness 8 million acres of Southern California BLM lands — most of California's roadless desert. This proposal was an improvement over the Club's previous proposal which the Club abandoned in favor of a more visionary proposal. Furthermore, EF!'s booth was the most popular. The speeches also brought credit to the radicalism of the EF! movement. Dave's John Muir speech and plea for donations earned $700 for the California Wilderness Coalition, and his longer speech inspired great enthusiasm. Especially popular was his proposal for a RARE III study — *Roaded* Area Review and Evaluation — to determine which roads should be closed so that the Wilderness system can be expanded. David Brower then gave an excellent speech in which he endorsed Dave's RARE III proposal and challenged California ecologists to become so radical as to make Dave Foreman look reasonable!

The last stage of the journey was the Southern California EF! Rendezvous. This gathering was wildly successful, and generated actions and plans for action. Among the areas in need of environmental actions, EF!ers discussed strategies for protection of the Sespe-Frazier Roadless Area, Anza Borrego State Park, Santa Margarita River, the San Diego area, and BLM desert areas. On the final evening of the Rendezvous, San Diego EF!ers did a successful action in which they altered objectionable billboards. (See Randy's article in this issue.) The success of this rendezvous suggests that regional gatherings are an effective way to advance the EF! movement.

BAY AREA EARTH FIRST!

by Karen Pickett

On a whirlwind tour, Dave Foreman and the crew from Tucson cruised through the Bay Area in late October to attend two booksignings of *Ecodefense* and to speak at our local East Bay Greens meeting.

On October 23, nearly 200 Greens filled a hall on the UC Berkeley campus. Mike Roselle, our roving agitator who has been agitating here in the Bay Area of late, explained some of our current foci — notably the Sinkyone Wilderness issue, and the rainforest issue. (See Sinkyone and rainforest articles in this issue.) When the stage was given to Dave, he launched into his jumping, whooping, fist-thrusting routine to get that old blood flowing. After everyone was sufficiently aroused, he delivered a moving talk, expressing hope in the Green movement as the only political movement with a base in ethics, and expressing hope that Green ethics will be biocentric. He also celebrated (us as) the "new Neanderthals" and discussed with those in attendance action vs. rhetoric, finding the female side of oneself, subverting the dominant paradigm, and non-violence as applied in "peaceful transmutation" of destructive machinery. It was an inspiring piece of verbage, and served to inject excitement and humor into the Greens group, who have been struggling with process and organization. Dave's talk served to pour cement into the alliance between EF! and the Green movement.

The following day we shuttled Dave from a booksigning at Bound Together Books in San Francisco, then back to the East Bay for a signing hosted by the local EF! group. Thanks to all who helped put these events together. They go a long way in promoting dialogue between us EF!ers and the community.

A focus of our local group will continue to be the rainforest issue. We have discussed ideas for possible actions (beyond Burger King, though they will not be ignored), will research possible targets, and plan to produce a fact sheet on World Bank involvement in rainforest destruction. It is a slow process, but we are plodding along. (I thought EF!ers were supposed to jump into the middle of the hot coals, not plod along. Oh well, another bubble burst. Sometimes you have to do your homework, damn it.) We are amassing good files, which anyone is welcome to use. Any contributions or additional researchers will help us all. Our local group will be the EF! rainforest contact, since Randy Hayes, previously the contact, will be coordinating the Rainforest Action Network.

A note to all those from the Bay Area who subscribe to *Earth First!*: Being a subscriber to the journal does not get you on our local mailing list. If you did not receive the last update mailing I sent out in early November, you are not are not on our local list. If you want to be, send your vital statistics to EF!, POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516. Please include phone number and indicate whether you are interested in coming to meetings or just want informational mailings.

Karen Pickett is the Bay Area EF! contact.

Long-time Earth First!er would like to meet other EF!ers in San Diego County for direct action, information exchange, friendship, etc. My interests include: Deep Ecology, environmental education, Earth religions, and aboriginal skills. POB 23449, San Diego, CA 92123.

THE GREAT PEACE MARCH *Step Forward.*

by Mark Williams

Next March 1st, 5000 people will leave Los Angeles on "The Great Peace March," and spend the next nine months walking across the country, ending in Washington DC by November 15, where they hope to be joined by hundreds of thousands of others as they march into the capital city and effectively bring it to a halt for a day.

Pro-Peace, the outfit putting together the March, also hopes this event will initiate a new era of grassroots American political action; that all the attention generated by the marchers will create such an acute public awareness of nuclear issues that officeholders will no longer be able to avoid doing something about the nuclear menace.

The Great March will pass near the ever-growing Military and Supersonic Operations Areas of Nevada . . . past the missile silos of Nebraska and onward . . . providing a forum for people in towns along the route to confront the pervasiveness of military.

Currently, Pro-Peace is staying neutral as far as allying itself with other political parties or causes, though such neutrality is subject to change in the years of "Phase 2" — the hoped-for movement following the march, encompassing civil disobedience, and plans for organizing similar events between East and West in Berlin, and even in the Soviet Union.

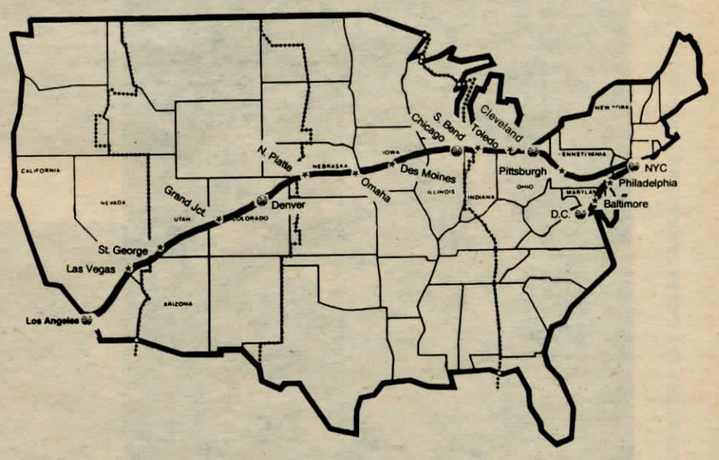
However, more prosaic concerns grip Pro-Peace at the moment: arranging for 2500 tents, 20,000 pairs of shoes, 3 million meals, etc., for all the marchers . . .

As with all good movements, this one is still looking for people: marchers, sponsors of marchers, sponsors of tents (you get to put a logo on any tent you sponsor: imagine EF! fists dotting the tentscape). Experienced EF! packers might want to offer expertise; local issue folk might want to arrange to speak at one of the campsites, or organize a town-greeting. Everyone's help is needed.

While there may be folk from EF!'s fabled misanthrope squad who grouch about the slickness of Pro-Peace's efforts — TV spots with movie stars, etc. — whatever gets people into action should be used. Any audacious challenge to the military-industrial cartel can only be good — for us, for the future of the green movement we hope will arise, and for Earth.

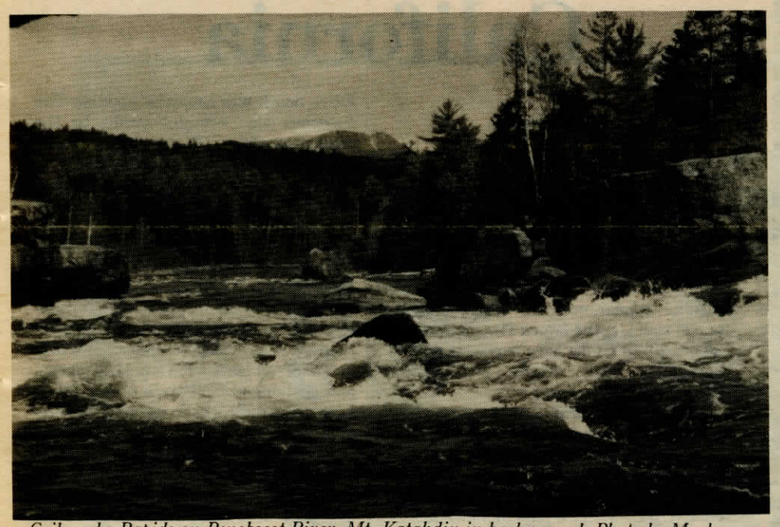
If you want to help Pro-Peace in any way, contact: Pro-Peace, 8150 Beverly Blvd., #301, Los Angeles, CA 90048 (213-653-6245); or phone toll-free 1-800-453-1234.

Mark Williams is a playwrite and environmental activist living in California.

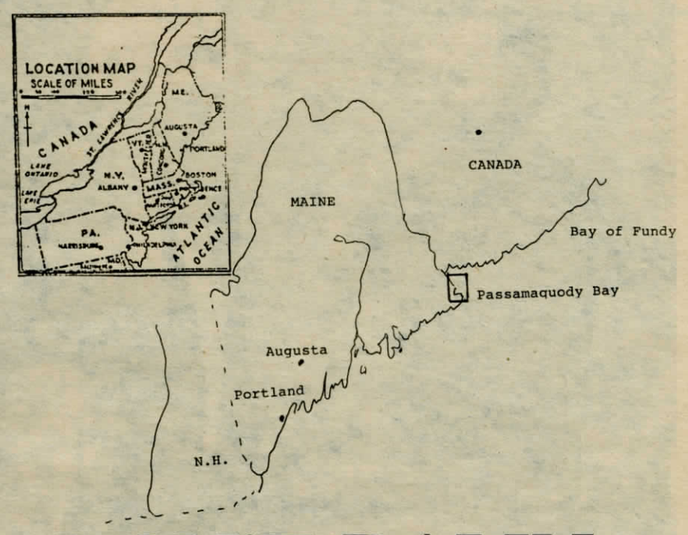


GREAT PEACE MARCH
March - December 1986

MAINE UNDER ATTACK



Cribworks Rapids on Penobscot River. Mt. Katahdin in background. Photo by Mark Shepard.



Earth First! Opposes BIG A Damn

By Gary Lawless

Maine is a feudal state, an occupied territory. Seventy-nine percent of Maine is owned by the forest products industry; 34% of Maine is owned by seven large paper companies. Great Northern Paper owns 11% of Maine, with over two million acres. According to the Forest Service, "in no other state does industry ownership account for such a large percentage of forest land." This is not Maine Vacationland. This is several million acres of clearcuts, million acre spray programs, poisoned rivers and air. And now Great Northern Paper wants to build a dam on the west branch of the Penobscot River. To quote from William Osborn's *The Paper Plantation:* "The political and economic control of Maine by a handful of absentee corporations has turned the state into a paper plantation. The monopolies have forced an unconsenting public to pay the social costs of the paper companies' production activities. Maine people have few rights under such an arrangement. They do not sit on the boards of Scott Paper, Georgia-Pacific, or Diamond International."

Our Democrat governor, Joseph Brennan, tries to appear independent of corporate control, yet just before the Big A Dam proposal hearings the Governor had the opportunity to make two appointments to the Land Use Regulations Commission, the only state hurdle the paper company's dam was facing. Both of Brennan's appointees were paper company related. The Land Use Regulations Commission voted four to three in favor of the dam. Brennan is the governor who called our only nuclear power plant "a socially-acceptable risk," thus agreeing with Maine Audubon and the Natural Resources Council that nuclear power was not an environmental issue. This is the governor who called aerial spray programs of over one million acres an "economic trade-off." This is a corporate lackey, and now he wants to run for Congress.

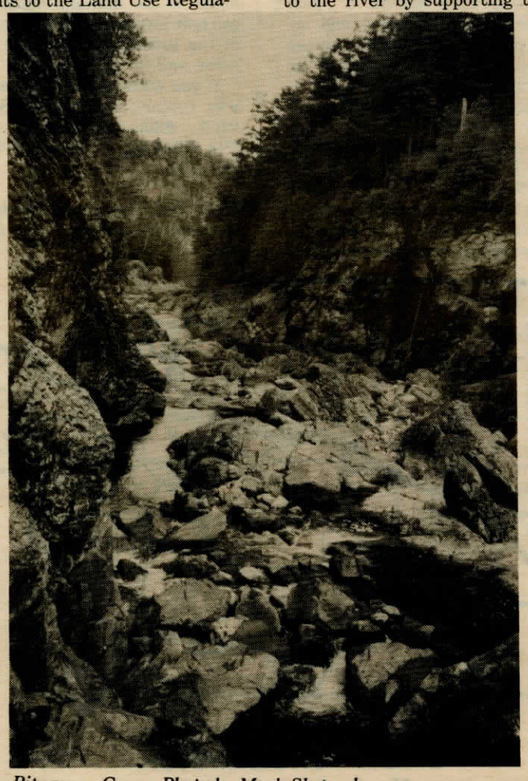
Both of Brennan's appointees voted for the dam. One questionable vote for the dam was cast by Commissioner Reynold Raymond, who attended only four of the 24 days of public hearings. The project now moves to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for its decision.

The Big A Dam will flood the Ripogenus Gorge — a spectacular whitewater section of the Penobscot River — as well as a highly regarded salmon pool. One surprising aspect of this issue was the support given to Great Northern by eight rafting companies. These lowlife river runners turned their backs on a stretch of river which had provided their livelihood, and tried to guarantee their future access to the river by supporting the paper company's dam. (The company owns the land on each side of the river.) In return, these corporate rafters have been promised several miles of now-dry riverbed, which Great Northern will flood several times weekly, for wilderness rafting experiences. They have even suggested bulldozing boulders into the riverbeds to provide these grandiose water slides with the excitement of whitewater rafting. One of the turncoat outfitters, Wayne Hockmeyer, wants to remove a large rock from the center of the most exciting rapids now existing on the river, making the section safer for his customers. Bumperstickers are now appearing suggesting "Save the rock, blow up Hock." Maine EF! is calling for a boycott of the companies who supported the dam, giving our business as rafting customers to those companies who oppose the dam.

In another related issue, the Park Service is trying to coordinate protection and ownership of the Appalachian Trail from the New Hampshire border to Mt. Katahdin in Baxter State Park. They are dealing with paper companies to set aside land permanently, to be protected forever. Most of the paper companies are bargaining and giving good concessions (1000 foot corridors, tops of mountains etc.). Great Northern does not want to negotiate with the Park Service, and will deal only with the state, thus assuring a greater possibility of having their own way, without concessions. The state is very quietly dealing with this issue, and it is likely that by the time the public learns of it, Great Northern will have had their way again.

"Occupation is the imposition of rule by aliens." Maine is occupied territory.

Gary Lawless is the Maine EF! contact, a poet and bookstore owner.



Ripogenus Gorge. Photo by Mark Shepard.

DON'T DAMN THE BAY

By Nancy Nielsen

Coastal wetlands, estuaries, mudflats, marshes, and bays have been dumped in, filled, polluted and developed from the earliest days of our country. The rare few unspoiled coastal areas that remain should be vigorously defended for their own value and for their importance to us as living systems. Maine's Straight Bay is one of these rare unspoiled coastal areas. Straight Bay is a body of water which is a part of Cobscook Bay, one of the basic units which forms the larger system called Passamaquoddy Bay. Located in the northeast corner of the country, it is surrounded by land which is surprisingly wild. Heavy industry has not reached this part of the US, and much of the economy is still based on the sea, on fish and shellfish. This area supports a small but growing population of bald eagles. While it is not wild land in the sense of the huge acreages in the West, because it is sparsely populated rough country surrounded by a sea notorious for strong currents and fogs, it is a place pervaded by a feeling of wildness. Yet this wildness is threatened.

In spring of 1981, the Maine State Legislature passed a bill authorizing the Cobscook Bay Tidal Power Authority. Proponents of the Authority planned to build dams on bays in the Cobscook Bay area in order to produce electricity, but before the Authority could be officially established it needed approval of voters of communities ringing Cobscook Bay. First on the list of bays to be dammed were Half Moon Cove, in the Pleasant Point-Eastport area, and Straight Bay, which lies between Lubec and Trescott.

In response to the threats to the bays, a group of residents in the Straight Bay area organized itself into the Straight Bay Association to oppose the creation of the Authority. The Association helped awaken the public to the adverse environmental consequences — including damage to wildlife populations and to such traditional livelihoods as clamming and fishing — of damming the beautiful bays. So successful was the Association that voters rejected the Authority by a three to one margin.

However, in early 1985 a new proposal surfaced to dam Straight Bay, this time by a private developer seeking a preliminary permit directly from the federal government. The dam proposed would be 750 feet long and 40 feet high. It would block Straight Bay at Race Point, thereby raising the low tide line and permanently blocking access by boat to the bay. Large vertebrates, such as seals and porpoises, would also be barred entry. The survival rate of fish, eels, etc. passing through the turbines is not known but may be low. Since waters of the bay would no longer interchange freely with waters of the larger Cobscook/Fundy system, changes in water quality would occur: Summer water temperatures would rise; winter water temperatures would fall; the salinity of the water would change; patterns of sedimentation inside and outside the dam would change.

Wildlife of the bay would be harmed by the dam and its accompanying structures, construction activity, water quality changes, and new tide line. Acres of clam flats would be permanently lost due to flooding. Seals who now summer in the bay would be displaced. Presently, the bay is an important mating area for seals in late summer. Eagles nesting near the bay would lose much of their low-tide feeding area, and might abandon their homes. The black duck — already a species suffering a dangerous decline in numbers — would suffer from reduced habitat and reduced food

SINKYONE STRUGGLE CONTINUES

By David Cross

Two years ago civil disobedience and a lawsuit stopped the clearcutting of Sally Bell Grove — 75 acres of ancient redwoods that overlook the Pacific and enclose at least one living-site of the Sinkyone tribe. The lawsuit claimed that the archaeological site and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) would be violated by the logging plans of Georgia-Pacific (G-P). As soon as G-P learned they were being sued they sent out crews bent on rendering the complaints moot. After two court orders, 22 arrests, one injury, and 20 trees down, the cutting stopped. Then it was quiet for nearly two years while the Appeals Court considered the Sally Bell suit, and the Sinkyone struggle continued on other fronts.

After judgment became final in September — finding for the plaintiffs, Environmental Protection Information Center and International Indian Treaty Council, plus three individuals — G-P simply resubmitted the Timber Harvest Plan (THP) to California Department of Forestry (CDF) with lip service to protecting environmental quality and Indian heritage.

This did not go well in the community. On October 21, CDF held its first-ever public hearing on a THP in a room packed with 80 people. G-P's only supporter was an employee. G-P's reps, Jere Melo and his boss Dow Jakobszoon, sat stolidly through the hearing, until the last question. This came from a little-old-lady who told me her strategy afterward: "I go to these meetings and listen until they all get through arguing. At the end there is always a question that nobody has asked, so I ask it." It was — after losing one lawsuit (and facing another) and with everybody here against it, how come G-P wants to cut those trees? Jakobszoon answered in management prose that it was just the "logical continuation" of the plan they had been following all along.

G-P is willing to spend more in legal fees than the Sally Bell trees would bring, a spokesperson admitted. Furthermore, G-P seeks to log the Grove in winter. Winter means 100 inches of rain pouring onto 65-degree slopes. Jere Melo calls the erosion hazard "moderate," but his crews know it would be a hell of situation in which to work . . . . Plus the protesters. So much for business logic.

The real reason for cutting has two parts. First, CDF and G-P recognize that if environmental legislation already on the books (CEQA) were actually applied to forest practices even on private lands — and the Sally Bell decision states it is legally applicable — it would disrupt the logging business. If the CEQA guidelines are applied in the Sally Bell case, it will set a precedent which does not bode well for tree destroying firms. The California Forest Practices Act (CFPA) and/or its administrators are incapable of restraining major firms, as G-P's tally of over 200 violations in a three-year period underscores. What teeth the court's Sally Bell ruling has is still unclear. But it is clear that CFPA guidelines are less adequate than CEQA guidelines.

"This is your work, Jere Melo!" Agnes Mansfield confronts Georgia-Pacific's head forester. Photo by David Cross.

The "Medicine Tree" is damaged but still standing in the Sally Bell Grove thanks to tree-huggers. Tobacco ties were placed by Native Americans to help in the healing. Photo by David Cross

Among other inadequacies, CFPA guidelines say nothing about how much of a watershed can be logged.

If we win the second Sally Bell case, we may get real environmental standards for the timber industry in California, but the true bottom line is that if this place is sacred, you can't cut the trees. The US Constitution, as judged by the G-O Road decision of 1983, recognizes the inviolability of sacred grounds. Part of our job is to extend this recognition to Sally Bell Grove.

The second factor behind G-P behavior is the vindictiveness of their brass in Ft. Bragg (CA). It drives them nuts that their THP 1-85-524-MEN is known all over northern California as Sally Bell Grove — after a woman, and an Indian, yet — and they can't cut it down. Whether the higher-ups at headquarters in Atlanta are more rational is an important question. Someone, most likely in Atlanta, gave the order to offer all 7000 acres of their Sinkyone land for sale last spring. And if the word had been passed to Governor George Deukmejian (a replica of Ronald Reagan) that they really wanted to sell, and that it was not just a public relations ploy, the Sinkyone would be protected now. Deukmejian vetoed the funds, but 1986 is an election year and even Paul Harvey thinks the Sinkyone should be saved!

That will happen only when G-P sells its holdings, either to a private land trust or to the State of California. (Save-the-Redwoods League has already pledged $500,000 to purchase old-growth.) If G-P can be made to withdraw their "harvest" plan it would seem to indicate a willingness to let go, this time in earnest. Last spring legislators easily rounded up $7 million to buy G-P land, which probably indicates their wish to be done with the issue. Though Deukmejian axed the money, a protected Sinkyone Wilderness will become a reality, through more "constant pressure, constantly applied."

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Here are the numbers: On December 13, CDF is due to approve or deny the timber harvest plan; denial would be unprecedented. If winter operations are approved and G-P is not immediately restrained by court order they will go in to cut the trees and Earth First!ers will be there to stop them. Whatever happens, tell G-P what you think, toll-free at 800-243-2492. Be polite; it's the South. Try President T. Marshall Hahn or World Timber Operations chief Hal Arrington. Address is 133 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta, GA 30348; toll phone 404-521-4000. For more information, to send money, etc.: Environmental Protection Information Center, Box 397, Garberville, CA 95440 (707-923-2931); or call Gil & Cecilia Gregori at 707-986-7787. Or contact International Indian Treaty Council, 1259 Folsom, San Francisco, CA 94103 (415-863-7733).

David Cross is an activist in the Bay Area Earth First! group, and a professional photographer whose work often appears in these pages.

supply.

Current laws do not favor preservation of natural water systems. If the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission grants a permit to a hydropower developer, that developer then has the power of eminent domain. It is not necessary for a developer to have prior ownership of any of the land needed for the dam, access roads or accessory structures, or right-of-way for the powerline. In the case of Straight Bay, the developer proposes to take the powerline to the Bangor Hydro substation at Jonesboro, Maine. FERC issued a preliminary permit to the developer in May of 1985. This permit gives him the right to do studies for a period of three years, during which time no one else may apply for a permit for the same site. Due to public pressure, restrictions were placed in the permit, requiring the developer to consult with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries in order to produce a plan which will limit the impact on bald eagles and seals.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Comments in opposition to the license for a dam across Straight Bay are now needed. This is the procedure to follow:

On the top of your comment, write in capital letters: COMMENT or PROTEST. If you wish to intervene, write: MOTION TO INTERVENE. Also write the project number: Project Number 8702-000. The name of the Project is Straight Bay Tidal Power. Make four copies of your letter. Send to: Kenneth Plumb, Secretary, FERC, 825 N Capitol St. NE, Washington, DC 20426; Fred Springer, Director of Division of Project Management Branch, Office of Hydropower Licensing, FERC, Room 208 RB, 825 N Capitol St. NE, Washington, DC 20426; and Arthur Fowler, First Fiduciary, 31 Central St. Bangor, ME 04401.

For more information call 207-733-2194, or write: Straight Bay Assoc., RFD 1, Box 149A, Lubec, ME 04652.

HOUSE AVAILABLE!

By Roger Featherstone

City life got you down? The relentless life of Earth First! organizing burning you out? Have I got a solution for you.

I own a five bedroom house sitting on an empty city block at the edge of a ghost town in a depressed farming area in the northern reaches of middle America half way between the Black Hills and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area *(ie northeastern South Dakota)*.

Since I'm going to be organizing here in Tucson for the foreseeable future, this house will be sitting empty.

I need someone to live in it. It is a very peaceful place. There is a good garden spot, a few chicken houses, a huge lawn, and good fishing and hunting. The house, although old, is in very good condition and has "modern conveniences."

Terms for the use of my house for Earth Firsters! are very negotiable. If you are serious about living in my house send me a propasal. We can work things out.

Write me, Roger Featherstone, c/o Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703.

The Congressional Grizzly Hearings

By Tony Povilitis

A week before Halloween, the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs held a hearing on the Yellowstone ecosystem, chaired jointly by Congressmen John Seiberling (Ohio) and Bruce Vento (Minnesota). The first witness, Senator John Melcher of Montana, expressed "pity for what's happening around Yellowstone," and urged that the grizzly bear be "maintained, however difficult." Representative Vento agreed with Melcher's view that "man must be educated," and added that maybe the bird hunters that recently shot a grizzly shouldn't have been where they were at all. Despite Vento's perceptive comment, the idea of seriously restricting certain human activities for the good of bears and other wild animals got lost in the subsequent harvest of opinions.

Much of the hearing featured the federal stewards of our public lands, or persons masquerading as such. National Park Service (NPS), Forest Service (FS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) officials argued that existing statutory authority was adequate, and that more interagency coordination is essentially all that is needed to save the Yellowsone ecosystem. As a backdrop to this chorus, Rep. Ron Marlenee (Montana) harangued the skeptics that most "threats" to Yellowstone were imaginary anyway, and rained kudos on officials for their efforts, singling out Yellowstone Park Superintendent Bob Barbee for praise. Like everyone else, Barbee failed to criticize his counterparts from the other agencies, even as Seiberling and Vento probed deeper. Yes, the Park Service "comments on FS and BLM plans adjacent to the Park," but no "we were not involved with energy leasing (plans) . . . ." NPS Director William Mott, recommended, based on the "success" of the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee, a similar super committee to deal with other management issues in the Yellowstone area. Still unconvinced, Vento remarked that the agencies "can write back and forth about each others plans but there's still a basic problem."

BLM Director Robert Burford, next on the grill, said that his agency can't refrain from geothermal leasing unless there is definite proof that geothermal development presents a danger to Yellowstone's geysers. Later, Paul Pritchard of the National Parks & Conservation Association urged that "until it can be proven conclusively that geothermal exploration and development within the ecosystem will not adversely effect the park's geysers, such action should be prohibited." (Indeed, a shift in the burden of proof could greatly help keep Yellowstone natural.)

Photo by Doug Peacock.

Rep. Marlenee was cool to geysers, however, remarking on the sulfur dioxide "pollution" they cause. Seiberling joked that we also have it from a higher (Republican) authority that trees are a great source of air pollution.

After a discussion on what an ecosystem is, Max Peterson, spoke. Peterson claimed 1) that logging may help the grizzly bear (Rep. Jim Weaver of Oregon suggested that the grizzly population thus ought to be growing by leaps and bounds); 2) that plans for roading Yellowstone are fine (Weaver challenged him to draw on the Yellowstone map the 650 miles of new roads planned over the next 10 years); and 3) that grizzly bear mortality in Yellowstone has declined over the last 2-3 years.

Later private views were heard. The oil & gas, timber, and commercial interests wanted a continuing firm commitment to "multiple use." Seiberling assured them that "at no time did we (the committee) consider legislating a buffer zone around the Park . . . even the Park Protection Act didn't do that."

Bob Anderson of the Greater Yellowstone Coalition argued that federal management of public lands was not well coordinated, but said that the Coalition was not suggesting super legislation or some alternative to existing authority. Bill Turnage of The Wilderness Society challenged the FS to change its outrageous Forest Plans. Amos Eno of National Audubon supported the agencies, and remarked how European brown bears (which he mistakenly called grizzly bears) nicely coexist with man (as if that were really the case). Phil Hocker of the Sierra Club asked that the FS, and not the BLM, have the authority for oil & gas leasing. Defenders of Wildlife urged wolf recovery. Campaign for Yellowstone's Bears (CYB) asked for the official designation of critical grizzly bear habitat (including Yellowstone Park and an area ranging from 10-30 miles beyond its borders), and requested that its petitions to FWS for endangered status and critical habitat for the grizzly be made part of the hearing record.

When the hearing began, Seiberling described it as a "truly landmark hearing." Whether such is the case remains to be seen. Indeed, the "basic problem" — i.e. the trashing of Yellowstone's wildlife and natural wonders — cannot be stopped merely by more interagency cooperation. Only basic changes in management attitude can do that.

Federal officials should stop making misleading statements or outright lies about the biological status of the Yellowstone grizzly population. Interior Secretary Donald Hodel, FS Chief Peterson, and Chris Servheen, grizzly program coordinator (FWS), have all been quoted in media of the Yellowstone area as saying that the grizzly bear's situation is improving. For example, the *Billings Gazette* ran a story with Peterson reporting that the greatest grizzly population growth is taking place on the National Forests! The Campaign for Yellowstone's Bears has asked both Peterson and Servheen to issue news releases setting the record straight. In replying, Servheen ignored the request, arguing instead that he was correct in concluding that grizzly mortality is down.

Here are the figures for known grizzly mortalities in the Yellowstone area since 1975: 1975 — 3, 1976 — 6, 1977 — 14, 1978 — 7, 1979 — 9, 1980 — 9, 1981 — 13, 1982 — 17, 1983 — 6, 1984 — 10, and a preliminary survey through September 1985 already finds 12 mortalities.

Besides treating data fairly, the agencies should avoid actions that may prevent the growth of the grizzly population. The current "bottom line" on projects such as Grant Village and Ski Yellowstone is whether they may jeopardize the grizzly's continued existence. This is clearly not an adequate basis for grizzly bear recovery, and it falls short of the intent of the Endangered Species Act.

The surest way to change this is to have FWS designate critical habitat in the core of the Yellowstone ecosystem. Federal agencies by law must avoid the "destruction or adverse modification" of critical habitat — i.e., habitat essential to the grizzly's recovery.

Another need is a firm commitment by NPS and FS to fully evaluate human impacts on the grizzly bear before approving projects or developments. This is not current policy. For example, NPS says it is premature to predict if opening both the Grant Village and Fishing Bridge developments will hurt the grizzly (even though FWS in its 1979 biological opinion on Grant Village said that it would). In any case, it opened both facilities over the past two years, and plans to open them again in 1986. Meanwhile, FS is promoting increased recreational development, new roads, and oil & gas leasing prior to any analysis of how these will affect grizzlies.

CYB has asked both agencies for a comprehensive "baseline" study and report on the cumulative effects of land uses on the grizzly bear, in terms of mortality risk and habitat needs. And it has asked that until the study is done, largely irreversible actions such as the construction of new recreational sites be avoided within grizzly range.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Readers can help the Yellowstone grizzly by writing to John Seiberling, Bruce Vento, and other concerned members of Congress asking for the needed reforms (House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515). Please send copies of your letters to CYB (POB 416, Boulder, CO 80306). As Director of CYB, I would llike to thank Earth First! for sending me to Washington to testify on the grizzly's behalf.

Tony Povilitis, PhD, is the director of the Campaign for Yellowstone's Bears, and a wildlife ecology professor at the University of Colorado.

JAPAN: Eyes Right!

by Rick Davis

Though many people in the West are concerned with the shift to the political right in Western nations, there is little awareness of what is happening in the Land of the Rising Sun. Recent political trends here, toward which other Eastern nations show an acute concern, indicate that Japan, under the rule of Prime Minister Nakasone Yasuhiro, is swerving dangerously to the right, a turn which in degree and seriousness can be compared to that underway in the US.

Prime Minister Nakasone has, during his administration, made constant referrals to "the final taking account of postwar politics," and in recent months it has become more and more apparent what he has in mind. This first became apparent with the textbook scandal of three years ago, in which the Japanese government, much to the horror of neighboring China and North and South Korea, attempted to rewrite the history of World War II on the continent, particularly with regard to incidents such as the Japanese Army's invasion of the mainland, so that Japanese children would respect their imperialistic forebears. Upon the insistence of the Korean and Chinese governments, Japan promised to make wording of future editions of the textbooks conform more closely to historical reality. However, it remains to be seen what expressions are used in future text books.

This past summer saw a political play of three acts which clearly shows the continuing shift to the right, and the true meaning of Nakasone's "taking account."

Act One is the preparation of public opinion for the abandonment of the GNP 1% ceiling on defense spending. Nakasone has suggested that defense spending must be raised. The aim is to remilitarize Japan in the name of the sea lane defense and sustained fighting power demanded by the Reagan administration. The continuing effort to build a 2500 meter runway over a coral reef off the coast of Ishigaki Island in Okinawa is one scene in this act. The excuses offered for this airport cannot conceal the truth — this runway, located at the southern extremity of Japan's territory, is to be used for military purposes. Also, the Nakasone government has been aggressive in promoting the return of the so-called "Northern Territory," the islands northeast of Hokkaido which are still occupied by the Soviet Union.

Act Two is the effort to pass the "Espionage Prevention Act," a law which would clearly be used to control information and curtail freedom of expression and the press. The government insists that this law is necessary to "protect state secrets," but opponents are legion, so proponents have not yet gained passage of the bill.

Act Three is the attempt to revive the pre-war militaristic atmosphere. This is exemplified by the official visit, on August 15 of 1985, of the Nakasone cabinet to the Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo. Yasukuni Jinja (Yasukuni Shrine) was established in 1869 in order to enshrine those who gave their lives for the country, and now enshrines over 2.5 million such martyrs, among them some Class A war criminals (note here the similarity with Reagan's visit to the Bitburg Cemetery in West Germany).

The Japanese press and all the opposition political parties have vehemently protested Nakasone's shrine visit, contradicting Nakasone's insistence that this will not revive pre-war state Shinto, and pointing out that this is in violation of the constitution. As with the textbook incident, other East Asian countries are aghast at this development. Victims of World War II Japanese imperialism have not forgotten what the Japanese military perpetrated before and during the war, and China in particular warns that this official visit to Yasukuni will have an adverse effect on its relations with Japan.

Nakasone and his Liberal Democratic Party cooperate fully with the Reagan administration, and while paying lip service to the environmental movement, they continue to hack away at these once beautiful islands, not to mention the environmental atrocities committed by Japan in other parts of the world.

This summer's three-act play is a good indication of how industrial totalitarianism is tightening its iron grip on Japan.

Rick Davis is our EF! contact in Japan.

WATT!! WHOSE PARK IS THIS?

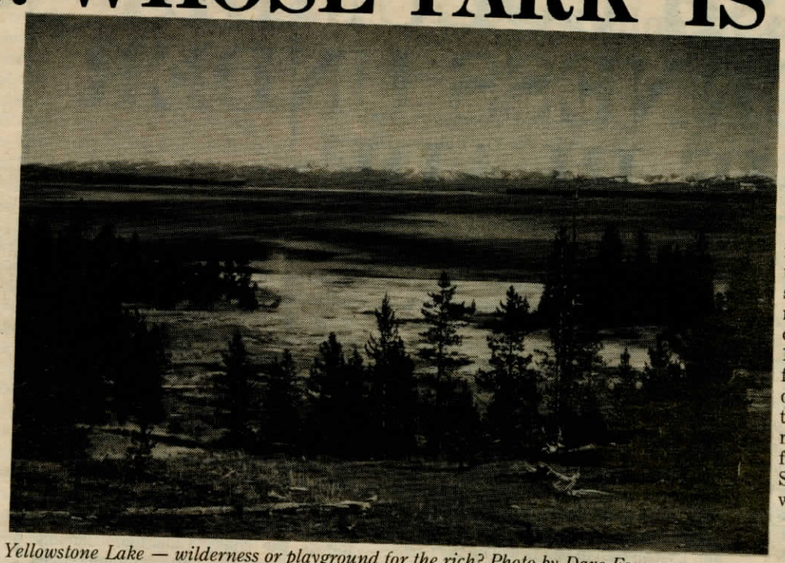
By Arthur Dogmeat

There's just one experience in Yellowstone Park you can't miss. No, it's not watching Old Faithful spout, nor watching a run-of-the-mill sunrise at the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone. Instead, spend a day on Yellowstone Lake aboard a houseboat called the S.S. Watt.

Yes, thanks to a joint effort by the National Park Service (NPS) and the Park concessionaire, TW-Services, this enthralling experience is available to every Park visitor; every visitor, that is, who can afford the SS Watt's $45 an hour rental fee. It's a bargain. The SS Watt has plush furniture, carpets, stereo system, cooking facilities, and a bar. The SS Watt even comes with fishing poles and two fishing guides.

TW-Services purchased the SS Watt with money provided by the "capital improvement fund," which is part of the contract between the Park Service and the concessionaire. Twenty-two percent of TW-Services gross revenues go into this capital improvement fund — an estimated $4.5 million a year.

Former Secretary of Interior James Watt masterminded the capital improvement fund. While some money from the capital improvement fund has been used for legitimate projects — installing fire escapes at the Lake Hotel, for example — it is apparent that the capital improvement fund has corrupted the NPS's fundamental role as a regulatory agency which protects the Park and the public from the vagaries of private enterprise. The NPS is supposed to strike a balance between Park use and Park preservation, but the TW-Services/NPS contract provides the Park Service with a profit motive. Now the NPS and the concessionaire are working together to exploit Park resources. The purchase of the SS Watt is just part of a trend that is turning Yellowstone into a plush playground for the wealthy.



Yellowstone Lake — wilderness or playground for the rich? Photo by Dave Foreman.

Although the cost of renting the SS Watt is prohibitive to all but the wealthy, TW-Services has been known to give certain customers special rates. In 1983, for example, at least one Congressman from a state bordering Yellowstone was treated to a complimentary day on the Lake. The SS Watt, then, serves two purposes. First, it is a pleasure vessel for TW-Services executives and any prominent guests they choose to entertain. Second, it is a tool TW-Services uses to lobby for TW initiatives in the Park.

TW-Services makes no secret of its plans for Yellowstone. In 1984, the *Billings Gazette* paraphrased comments of TW's president Hal Ritchie on the new Yellowstone: "People may like to rough it on occasion, he said, but hot dogs and campfires don't hack it when you feel like getting fancy in a nice dress or suit and enjoying a meal of lobster and pate."

The public pays substantial "opportunity costs" for the SS Watt. The money the NPS spends on a deluxe houseboat should pay for boundary patrols to prevent poaching of grizzly bears. Furthermore, the drone of the SS Watt's engines carries for four miles in every direction, thus ruining many square miles of wilderness waters for wildlife and canoeists.

Based on events at Grant Village, it is apparent that neither Congress nor the public has any say in how the NPS spends money from the capital improvement fund. In 1980, Congress approved construction funds for Yellowstone. In 1981, Congress deleted all but $3 million from these funds, which were to fund development at Grant, among other things. The NPS responded by using $7 million from the capital improvement fund for more development at Grant. So the capital improvement fund giveth what Congress taketh away.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Clearly, it is time for a change in Yellowstone. The Park Service and TW-Services are simply business partners. The NPS has proven itself incapable of responsible Park management. The capital improvement fund must be eliminated or controlled by Congress. Write your Congresspersons now, before you're required to wear gowns and tuxedos to enter TW, ooops, Yellowstone National Park. (US Senate, Washington, DC 20510; House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515). While you're at it, ask them to ask National Park Service Director William Mott to fire Yellowstone Park Superintendent Robert Barbee for gross dereliction of duty.

PINNACLES PIGS

by Karen DeBraal

Grunting, snorting, and rooting their way through a piggy paradise, non-native feral pigs are decimating Pinnacles National Monument in central California. Their destructive activities are well known in Volcanoes National Park in Hawaii, in the Smoky Mountains of Tennessee, in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, and in Australia. All of these areas, with the exception of Pinnacles, have worked toward the elimination of the pig problem.

The blame cannot be attached to the National Park Service at Pinnacles. Trying desperately to solve the problem, Pinnacles continually runs up against idiotic road blocks from local ranchers and the BLM. To solve the pig problems of environmental degradation — erosion due to rooting, digging, and even sliding down hills; stream fouling due to wallowing; food source loss for native wildlife; all this compounded by prolific reproduction — Pinnacles has decided to follow a plan implemented successfully at Volcanoes National Park — this would entail fencing in the entire Monument and then hunting and/or trapping the pigs out of existence (or at least to a manageable level) within the monument. This appears to be the best plan for managing this problem.

Cattle are the reason for the opposition of ranchers and the BLM to this plan. To build an effective fence (along ridge tops as opposed to valleys) would require the acquisition of parcels of BLM land along the outside of Pinnacles Monument. The BLM and local congressional representative Leon Panetta voice no objections to Pinnacles obtaining the land, but the BLM and ranchers are opposed to the fence being built on those lands, as it would prevent the illegal grazing of cattle on Monument lands. Panetta will not openly support the fence either. Unfortunately, the fence issue tends to cloud the land acquisition issue. Local opposition to the fence also asks "why spend all that money on a fence (about five million dollars) to save worthless chaparral?"

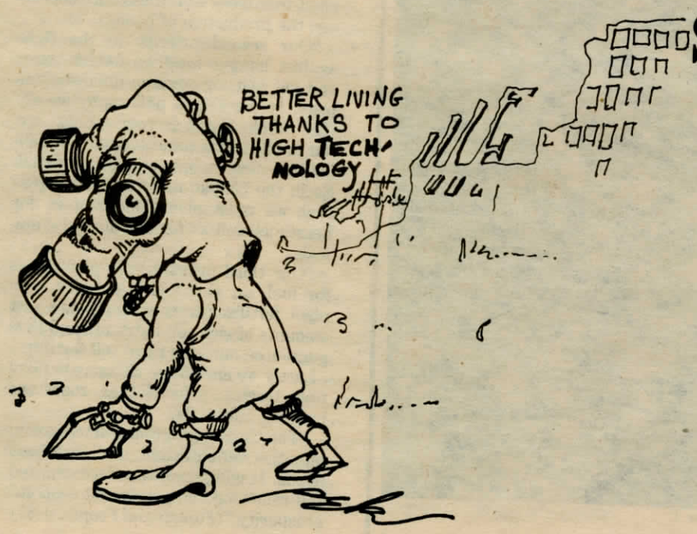
Pinnacles is hardly a piece of worthless chaparral. Declared a National Monument by Theodore Roosevelt, the 16,000 acre area features twisted, sky-prodding, ryholite and basalt rock formations. Prairie falcons, Cooper's Hawks, golden eagles and other raptors nest on the jagged peaks. Ravens croak in the dense chaparral and kangaroo rats flit through the chamise. Mountain lions, bobcats, badgers, and grey foxes roam the Monument's varied ecosystems of oak woodland, coastal chaparral, and riparian habitat, all of which is interspersed with soughing digger pines, and all of which inhabit an area of extreme temperatures and delicate balance.

Photo by Karen DeBrall.

Since Pinnacle's great popularity among outdoorspersons is recognized by the NPS, the Pinnacles staff has been told to obtain the surrounding parcels of land but not to cloud the issue with the pig fence. But the acquisition of this land requires an act of Congress and Representative Leon Panetta needs to hear support in favor of this. Pinnacles has recently been given permission to begin trapping pigs to remove them from the Monument. Though things are beginning to look up, Panetta has heard much opposition to the pig fence and it is important to remind him that pigs are destroying a unique National Monument.

Write: Leon Panetta, House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515

Karen DeBraal spent last summer at Pinnacles studying the effects of rock climbers upon the fragile Pinnacles environment.



Save Shiraho's Coral Reef

By Nanao Sakaki

One of the most beautiful and diverse, yet vulnerable, environments is the coral reef. Slightly north of the Tropic of Cancer, 400 kilometers southwest of Okinawa's capital, lies Ishigaki island, home of a remarkably healthy reef — rare in Japan's Okinawa Prefecture where landfill, pollution, and siltation have destroyed many lagoons.

Japan is prosperous, but its mountains, rivers, and ocean areas are dying. Tokyo ignores fisher people and peasants, but listens to big enterprise. Now, Ishigaki's Shiraho Village is being threatened by Japanese officials in Tokyo. They have plans for a new airport which will fill and pave Shiraho's coral reef — robbing islanders of food and income.

As a Japanese poet and ecologist, I wish to ask your help on behalf of Shiraho's villagers. They love their way of life with the ocean and reef. If they lose their ocean, they may lose their culture too — songs, weaving, ceramics, and mythology unique to the archipelago. Forty years after World War II, American and Japanese military are still on Okinawa. There is evidence that military reasons may be the real reasons behind Shiraho's airport. Please write to the Prime Minister of Japan to stop this Kamikazi project!

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, c/o Japanese Embassy, 2520 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20008. Contributions for "Save Shiraho" may be mailed to: Nanao Sakaki, c/o Tooth of Time, Star Rt. 760, Corrales, NM 87048.

BRITISH COLUMBIA WILDERNESS UNDER THE BLADE:

By Rabinowitz

There is a war surfacing between clearcutting interests and those determined to save the last wilderness areas in British Columbia. The editorial sections of British Columbia (BC) newspapers are regularly dominated by logging controversies: Meares Island confrontation being decided in court; the International Woodworkers Association backing the Indian land claim in the Stein; Chilcotin white settlers, trappers, wilderness guides and native Indians holding off clearcuts with their anger inspiring company fears of monkeywrenching; logging resumed on Lyell Island, in the "Canadian Galapagos" of South Moresby in the face of Haida Nation resolve to stop it.

Austin Pelton, the BC Minister of Environment was lambasted by environmentalists for putting the contested areas before a study committee slanted in favor of development — a committee with no environmental group or Indian representation.

Pelton enacted a three month stay on decision-making for the contested wilderness areas starting in October, a move to avoid a bad image until after re-election. However, he excepted from the stay the South Moresby islands, said by botanists to be a unique prehistoric ecosystem. In singling out this key area, Pelton reversed his own decision to halt logging there until the area could be adequately assessed. Media speculation suggests that South Moresby's tree farm license lumber had already been committed by the provincial government to a number of mills. The government has not admitted this. Recent issues of the Moresby Island-based "Redneck News" express outrage over 80 jobs lost by the previous stay of logging on Lyell Island, and note meetings between government officials and local loggers whose jobs are threatened. The Haida Nation has followed its spoken resolve to protect their land claim in the South Moresby by initiating an occupation of Lyell Island as loggers move in, with many others ready to join them should the Haida call for assistance.

Stein preservation activists, though unhappy with the stay of decision, have taken advantage of the stay to wage a letter-writing campaign and garner financial support for legal action under way against land expropriation for the logging road right of way. Now, however, it looks like the Stein too may be exempted from logging delay — recently logging company representatives were met by 80 preservationists when they came to the Stein to study the proposed logging road site. The Lillooet and Lytton Indian bands will be the first to meet the road crew when it arrives as early as December 2.

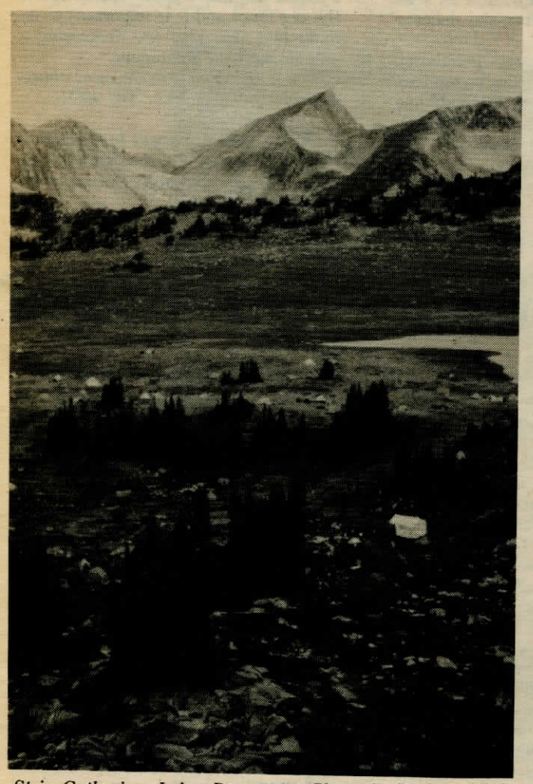
In the West Chilcotin, a mountainous area in the BC interior, wilderness advocates include ranchers, who recognize their need for a watershed protected by stands of lodgepole pine; and trappers, who see the necessity of trees for marten, fisher and other fur-bearers. They, as well as other white settlers and local Indians, say they would rather live with the pine beetle "epidemic" (the BC Forest Ministry's excuse for clearcutting), as they have for ten years, than with "emergency" logging that would ruin their way of life. Already, trees in the area have been marked with surveyor's ribbons with the words "clear cut" printed on them. In a reversal of the usual logger vs. ecologist roles, sheds of pro-logging people have been burned down, and feces smeared on the truck of a logging company advocate. A spokesperson for Carrier Lumber Ltd., which has been granted a minimum stumpage area in the Chilcotin equal to about half the size of Vancouver Island, admitted to the *Vancouver Sun* that the company is holding back because of the anger of the people — fear of "sabotage" was mentioned. A rancher spoke warmly of the working relationship established between the Ulkatcho Indian band and concerned whites in trying to save the Chilcotin.

Indeed, whites and Indians, working together for wilderness, have developed a healthy relationship in BC. For once, whites defer to the spiritual values of the original guardians of the land, letting them create a framework (land claim) for guarding the Earth Spirit.

Letters in support of wilderness and Indian land claims are needed. Whether or not you're a Canadian, officials will be affected when they hear from you of the potential that BC wilderness has for tourism. Write in support of preservation, with no logging, of all contested wilderness areas in BC (which together comprise only 2-3% of BC's land). Mention that these heavily government-subsidized timber exploitations in BC are leading to a US tariff on Canadian timber imports that could be devastating to the shaky Canadian economy. Criticize the Canadian logging practices whereby credit is given for "stumpage fees" in such a way that the government pays the cost of logging roads and other developments that make an otherwise unprofitable timber harvest affordable for logging companies. For the Stein venture, the logging company is requesting a transfer of stumpage credit from one region to another, a dangerous precedent that could open more areas to deficit logging. Let BC officials know you are aware of this proposal and that it will make a US tariff more likely.

In Canada there are institutionalized critics of environmental posts, and recognized leaders of the opposition party in Parliament. So that your letters may be as effective as possible, send copies to critics and peers of the person addressed (all of the officials listed below are appropriate). Also, in BC it apparently works to mark your envelopes "Personal and Confidential" to get your letters past office staff to the people you want to address. Write now, before it is too late.

Address letters to: Austin Pelton, Minister of Environment; Barbara Wallace MLA, Environment Critic; Tom Waterland, Minister of Forests; Frank Howard MLA, Forest Critic; and Bob Skelly, Leader of the Opposition — all at: Parliament Buildings, Victoria, BC, V8V 1X4 CANADA. Also address letters to: Thomas McMillan, Minister of Environment; Charles Caccia MP, Environment Critic; Gerald Merrithew, Minister of Forests; Brian Tobin MP, Forest Critic; and Lorne Greenaway, MP — all at : House of Commons, Ottawa, Ont., KlA OH3 CANADA.



Stein Gathering. Labor Day, 1985. Photos by Barbara McCandless and others.

CHIPKO: Tree Huggers

By Bill Devall

Chipko means tree hugging. The Chipko movement is one of the most significant grassroots movements in India, since independence in 1947, to combine ecological awareness and religion. It serves as an inspiration for activists in the the Deep Ecology movement throughout the world.

There are many accounts of direct action by women and children in the movement over the last twenty years. I repeat one story (from *Forests and People*, p. 46) to show the quality of this action.

In March of 1974 all the menfolk of Reni village had been called to Chamoli town to pay overdue compensation. While they were gone, a girl saw labourers marching toward the forest. Gaura Devi, a child-widow now in her fifties and accepted by village women as their leader, was informed. Soon she assembled 27 women who rushed after the labourers. "Brother," Gaura Devi first addressed the labourers, "this forest is our maternal home. From this we satisfy so many of our needs. Do not axe it. If you do so, landslides will ruin our homes and fields." The labourers, whose families lived in similar conditions in the hills, understood the agony of these women. They agreed to return. Then the contractor and some officials, though hurling curses, also had to follow.

The endangered trees of Reni had been saved. Soon after the State government appointed a committee to study the validity of the demands of the Chipko movement. This committee recommended a moratorium on the commercial exploitation of Reni and several other forests of Alaknanda catchment for a decade. This recommendation was accepted by the State Government and subsequently a moratorium was imposed.

Sunderlal Bahuguna, a disciple of Mahatama Gandhi, is a messenger of the Chipko movement. Sunderlal thinks that it is necessary to live simply. He says that social activists must be willing to make what many people would consider sacrifices. Sunderlal also believes that environmental problems must be solved together with economic problems. We here quote Sunderlal to show his understanding of the close links between economic justice and ecological well-being.

"I was surprised to hear from so many learned speakers that it is poor people who harm the environment. Have you ever experienced real hunger? This is a hungry man's philosophy — before anything else can be considered he must have something to eat. We have to find ways to solve this problem; how can human beings and trees co-exist. There is one answer, we must plant trees which give food for hungry people. We must plant nut trees, because nuts can be stored and they are rich in protein and fats. We must plant trees with edible seeds and oil bearing seeds. We must plant fruit trees and trees which encourage the production of honey.

"Our second priority in the fight against hunger must be fodder trees, and not just for our own domestic animals. In our Hindu philosophy we say 'The whole Earth is your family,' but our family has become so small and selfish that now we only care for mankind. So in the Chipko movement we stress that we must plant fodder trees for beasts as well as for our domestic animals.

"Our third priority is to plant trees for fuel. . . Our fourth priority is to plant fertilizer trees which create vast amounts of rich soil nutrients and thus guarantee our long term soil fertility. . . Lastly we encourage villagers to plant fibre trees . . . for clothes, ropes and building materials.

"The Chipko program will make communities self-sufficient, in all their basic needs. It will generate a decentralized, self-renewing and permanent economic prosperity." (*Forests and People*, p. 87)

Thinking Like A Rainforest

By John Seed

Queensland zoologist Peter Dwyer has noted that the New Guinea highlanders find the rainforest wildlife not only good to eat, but also "good to think." He says that "Whilst we don't eat our rainforests, we do become enmeshed in our perceptions and thinking about them until they suddenly and vividly possess for us values that we can only identify as symbolic, intrinsic and — with some desperation — as spiritual.

"The tropical rainforests are primitive and ancient ecological systems whose origins stretch backwards through the emergence of the flowering plants in Jurassic times over 135 million years ago to the plants preserved in the coal measures of the Carboniferous millions of years before that and which appear to us today in the form of plastics .... Such is biogeochemical continuity."

Dwyer's ability to see rainforests of hundreds of millions of years ago embedded in the plastics of the present age is a good example of the psychological effects of rainforests upon people who spend their time in them. Perhaps this is psychobiogeochemical continuity? Why do we who spend time in rainforests "become enmeshed in our perceptions and thinking about them?" I believe that contact with rainforests energizes, enlivens a realization of our actual, our biological self. They awaken in us the realization that it was "I" that came to life when a bolt of lightning fertilized the chemical soup of 4.5 billion years ago; that "I" crawled out of Devonian seas and colonized the land; that, more recently, "I" advanced and retreated before four ages of ice.

We are composed of the ashes of ancient stars weaving themselves into ever more brilliant complexity, weaving themselves into rainforests, weaving themselves into us. I am that! Yes, our psyche is itself a product of the rainforests. We evolved for hundreds of millions of years within this moist green womb before emerging a scant five million years ago, blinking, into the light.

When we enter the rainforest we become acutely and personally aware of the exquisite intelligence of Nature, holding millions of species in dynamic, evolving equilibrium. In the light of these forests, our puny human intelligence becomes aware of itself as a mere fragment of this vast compassionate web. Our tiny, momentary life finds a true frame of reference there, against which our humanity can see itself. We realize the matrix within which (regardless of any arrogant fantasies we may have to the contrary) we are inextricably embedded.

The intelligence of the rainforest which gave rise to humans and myriads of other creatures remains accessible to humans who choose to surrender to it. Unfortunately the thick insulation of social fictions that we call our "selves" may prevent us from recognizing that we are just one leaf on the tree of life, just one strand in the vast biological fabric, incapable of independent existence. We may then labor under various delusions like: the universe revolves around Earth, the world was created for our benefit, or our proper relationship with the myriad creatures is to "subdue and dominate" them.

A few years ago, the Pulitzer prize-winning eco-poet Gary Snyder was working for the then Governor of California Jerry Brown. An exasperated Brown said: "Gary, why is it that you're always going against the flow?" Snyder replied: "Jerry, what you call 'the flow' is but a 16,000 year eddy. I'm going with the actual flow." Thinking like a rainforest!

If we enter a rainforest and allow our energies to merge with the energies that we find there, then the rainforest may be a place where our roots are able to penetrate through the soft soil reaching beyond the sad 16,000 year history and into the reality of our billions of years of carbon journeying through the universe. Various truths which had been heretofore merely "scientific" become authentic, personal and, yes, spiritual. We may now penetrate to a truly deep ecology.

John Seed is the founder of the Rainforest Information Centre in Australia, and has been a major sparkplug in catalyzing international action to preserve the world's rainforests. He is a also a leading student of Deep Ecology.

Rats & Cats

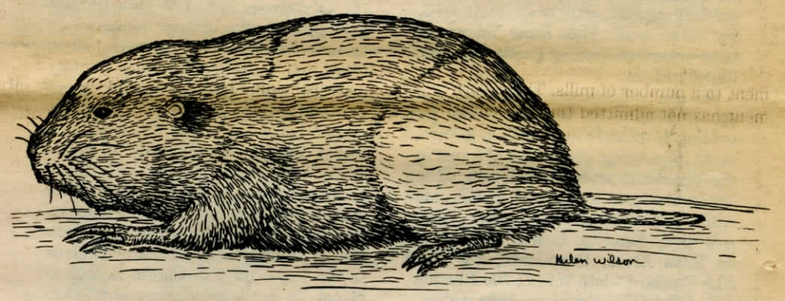
By Wayne T. Williams

Ecologists refer to natural environments as tightly integrated sytems where everything in some way affects everything else. The magnitude of those effects lends complexity and stability to ecosystems of which we are an inseparable and at times diminuitive part. To make this interconnectedness apparent, many examples of predator-prey, feast and famine, erosion/tectonics, and eternal nutrient cycling sequences could be described. I prefer the following:

Deep in lowland jungles of the Peten, in Guatemala, Mayan Indians grow corn. Corn is their central cultural pillar, and their society is dependent on crop success to feed itself. Rats are the worst enemies of corn crops. Rats eat young corn ears. At night, mobs of rats invade cornfields and ravage crops.

Peten villagers have tried to poison rats, but their dogs ate the dead rats and died. Villagers also brought in cats, but they died too. I did research to discover why the cats had died. Malaria had been the worst human problem in the Peten jungle, and in order to make it at all possible for the Mayans to live in the lowlands, the Guatemalan government initiated a Malaria Control Program. The program consisted of spraying DDT along the bottom meter of the walls of the houses of every village — inside and out. The US Agency for International Development and Guatemalan entomologists had discovered that after a female Anopheles mosquito fed on her human host, she weighed too much to fly very far, and simply flew to the nearest wall to rest and digest. After eating, the blood-gorged mosquitos landed on walls below the one-meter level. The Mosquito Control Program with DDT was to spray only the lower parts of walls. This technique appeared to work well. Malaria was controlled and did not prevent human settlement in lowland jungles, plus the ecosystem was not saturated with the chloronated hydrocarbon pesticide. (Though one does wonder how much long-term harm was caused by the spraying of DDT inside houses and out-of-doors.) But the cats died. Cats rubbed against walls and accumulated DDT. And cats clean themselves by licking their coats! Thus rats continued to eat corn and jeopardize the Mayans. The ecosystem is so interconnected that each time attempts to control one or more problems were tried, new problems resulted. I recommended that the farmers bring in vicious rat terriers and set them loose in cornfields at night...

Corn ravaged by rats. Photo by Wayne T. Williams.



US BIRDS AND COSTA RICA

by Joan Huber

The mountains of Costa Rica have been and continue to be deforested to make pasture for cattle. In past centuries, temperate forests of the foothills and lowlands, and rainforests in the mountains covered most of Costa Rica. Traditional Indian cultures cleared forests but in a renewable fashion. They slashed and burned forests and moved on when nutrients were used up by their maize. But the small patches they cleared allowed the forest to reseed itself by the surrounding trees. Only during the last thirty years has widespread deforestation occurred.

The deforestation of the past three decades, stimulated by the insatiable US market for beef, is not reversible because creating pastures has depleted soils of vital nutrients and because pasture areas are too large to allow adjacent forests to reseed the cleared areas. After pasture areas have ceased to be productive, and cattle have cleared the grass, rain beats the soil into hardpan — a brick-like soil in which seeds cannot grow. Experiments in the same type of deforested areas in Columbia as exist in Costa Rica have remained barren for ten years despite serious attempts to restore the forest.

The incredible diversity of Costa Rican forests — where there are 5000 species of trees as compared to 1000 in all of North America — is also a factor in the inability of the forest to restore itself. Costa Rican rainforest trees grow individually instead of in groves. For example, cecropia trees are not adapted to share close quarters with their own kind. Thus a cleared area of too many acres creates a barrier of space too wide to overcome. A patch of trees migrates by dropping seeds along its edges, but these widely spaced trees cannot do this.

Deforestation is disrupting the Costa Rican climate. Where the land is stripped of trees it is hotter. As a result, now when rain clouds hit the heat over the deforested ridges they evaporate. Rainfall has dropped measurably.

When it does rain, erosion in deforested areas is a serious problem because the rain fall is not buffered by trees. The soil along slopes weakens, and when saturated it slides. The mountains are scarred from numerous landslides.

This environmental destruction is killing our songbirds. After their flight of thousands of miles, many birds from throughout North America arrive to find their wintering grounds gone. Many of the birds starve. The territorial instinct to prevent crowding, plus the lack of food is decimating these species. Birds that are affected include oven birds, thrushes, American redstarts, orchard orioles, meadowlarks, indigo buntings, yellow-throated vireos, blue-winged warblers, black-throated green warblers, chestnut-sided warblers, Louisiana waterthrushes, common yellow-throats, eastern wood-pewees, eastern phoebees, veeries, black and white warblers, and many other migrant species. Studies show that these species are suffering serious population declines. This is something to think about when you eat beef.

NEMESIS NEWS NET

By Australopithicus

Pure Indian Group in Brazil Invaded by Miners

The largest unacculturated Indian group in South America is the Yanomami Indians who inhabit tropical forest in the vicinity of northern Brazil and southern Venezuela. Because this group of 21,000 Indians has received more international publicity than other South American native groups, they were promised over 3 years ago that their lands would be protected, but the government has failed to fulfill its promise. Local businessmen now plan to send 3000 tin miners onto Yanomami land. In January 1985, the Brazilian Indian agency, FUNAI, recommended establishment of 9.4 million acres of Yanomami land as an Indian Park, yet the gradual weakening of legislation protecting Brazilian Indians has continued and businessmen are pushing for legislation to legalize mining on Yanomami land. Meanwhile, miners have illegally invaded Yanomami areas, as they did in the 1960s and 70s when they introduced the Yanomami to tuberculosis, venereal disease, and viral infections. The Yanomami have spoken publicly against attacks on their land, but to no avail. Thus some Yanomami have organized raiding parties to evict illegal miners.

We can support the Yanomami and the protection of tropical forests by writing to Brazil's new civilian government requesting: protection of forest in the Yanomami area; demarcation of the Yanomami area as defined in Portaria 1.817; and removal of all miners from this area. Send to: Exmo. Sr. Gerson da Silva Alves, Presidente, FUNAI, SIA Trecho 4 - lote 750, 71.200 Brasilia DF, BRAZIL. For more information, write: Survival International, 29 Craven St., London WC2N5NT, ENGLAND.

Sculptor Plans Concrete Tree for Utah Desert

Alongside I-80 in the Utah Salt Flats there will soon be an 83-foot high concrete sculpture with branches and huge colored leaves. The sculptor, Karl Momen considers this gaudy wasteful aberration to be art. Rumor has it that some ecologists are considering using their own freedom of artistic expression upon this monolith.

Kirkpatrick Defends French on Issue of Rainbow Warrior

Jeane Kirkpatrick, former US ambassador to the UN, recently defended the French, in their efforts to stop Greenpeace, assuring us that "The French did not intend to attack civilians . . . or maim, torture, or kill them." Meanwhile, the State Department has stated that it would not be appropriate for the US to comdemn the French bombing of the Rainbow Warrior.

Air Force Holds Bombing Jamboree in Nevada

Gunsmoke '85, considered the Super Bowl for fighter pilots, drew 102 pilots and over 800 personnel from throughout the world to Nevada's Nellis Air Force Base, 40 miles northwest of Las Vegas, for 2 weeks of bombing competition and combat training. During the strafing competition, pilots in advanced fighter planes circled nearby mountains and dove at targets, each pilot firing 200 rounds during each of six attempts. Meanwhile back at the base, their maintenance crews monitored their performance on TV.

Pine Beetle Cutting EIS Is Released

In January or February, the Forest Service will release its EIS for its timber cutting in east Texas Wilderness Areas allegedly to combat pine beetle infestations. Biologists have shown that pine beetles go through natural cycles of population increases and decreases and that fighting the beetles by cutting trees is ineffective and ecologically ruinous. The pine beetle provides a convenient excuse for Freddies to fulfill their chosen function of felling forests. Comments on the EIS are now being accepted. This could be a precedent-setting issue, so people from throughout the US should write. Voice your opposition to any timber cutting in Wilderness Areas by writing to: Kirby Brock, Pine Beetle EIS team, Forest Service, Southern Region, 1720 Peachtree Rd. NW, Atlanta, GA 30367.

Relocation Efforts May Save Rhinoceros

Poaching and habitat encroachment have so decimated rhino populations that Africa now has less than 8000 black rhinos while Asia has less than 1500 greater one-horned rhinos (mostly in India and Nepal). Rhinos are being poached for their horns — which, in Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, and elsewhere in the Far East, are believed to have value as medicines and aphrodisiacs. Additionally, North Yemen now imports rhino horns to supply its nouveau riche oil men with daggers with handles of horn. Kenya hopes to save its rhinos by capturing all of them and translocating them to four guarded sanctuaries enclosed in solar-powered electric fences. This $2 million project is now underway with help from World Wildlife Fund (WWF). Meanwhile, WWF together with a Nepalese environmental group, the King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation, plans to move a breeding population of 12-20 greater one-horned rhinos to the Royal Bardia Wildlfie Refuge in Nepal. In both the African and Asian relocations, the overland transport of rhinos may be the riskiest aspect of the projects; but even after rhinos are relocated, they will still be in danger if their host countries are not able to provide more rangers to protect them than are provided in most Third World preserves. Some ecological activists within the US have expressed the hope that soon ecologists may have the opportunity to go to threatened places in Africa, Asia, and Latin America to directly intervene against wildlife poachers.

Information on Fighting Toxics, Adopting Horses

The Rocky Mountain Chapter of Sierra Club has started a toxic waste hotline offering information and advice on toxic waste problems, at 303-572-1997. Wild horses from southwest Colorado are now available for adoption. For information, contact: Bob Stanger, BLM, 701 Camino del Rio, Durango, CO 81301 (303-247-4082).

Australian Environment Abused by Government

Australia's Environment Minister, Bernard Cohen, has lashed out against environmental groups trying to stop the killing of kangaroos. Cohen has continuously attacked environmental groups for the past couple years, but this attack is particularly despicable insofar as two to three million kangaroos are slaughtered annually despite a law against killing kangaroos unless they cause economic loss to farmers and graziers. An equally ominous indication of government anti-environmentalism occurred on October 15, when police raided a newspaper office in Darwin and tried unsuccessfully to forcibly obtain a government document supporting the handover of Ayers Rock to its Aboriginal owners. The Northern Territory Government opposes the handover. Meanwhile, in Queensland, the Roaring Meg River near Cape Tribulation and within the proposed Greater Daintree National Park is being damaged by tin mining. The local Aborigines, the Gugu Yalanji, and the Australian Conservation Foundation are seeking to halt the mining.

NORA and SCLDF Sue Navy

Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association and Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund have filed a Federal lawsuit against the Navy's plans for a 5500 square mile supersonic operations area (SOA) around the Fallon Naval Air Station. The suit seeks to overturn the recent decision of Navy Secretary John Lehman designating the SOA. For an update on the continuing militarization of the West contact: Charles Watson, NORA, POB 1245, Carson City, NV 89702.

Animal Protectors Infiltrate; Get Besieged

Melinda Calleia, an animal rights activist, conducted an undercover investigation of animal experiments by posing as a volunteer for the Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles. Her investigation and report of cruel experiments performed upon pigs led to the suspension of the two guilty researchers. Meanwhile, in Canada, animal rights activists succeeded in forcing the evacuation of the posh meeting place of a group of animal experimenters by sending a stink bomb in with an unsuspecting waiter. In Britain, offices and homes of key animal rights activists — some of whom have been involved with lab break-ins — were raided by police. Detectives stole documents from the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection. These three incidents again show that the animal rights movement is demonstrating effective uses of innovative ecodefense tactics, while authorities use ruthless countermeasures.

Garbage Incineration Releases Poisons

Household garbage burned in incinerators can emit such dangerous amounts of dioxin and furans that Sweden has declared a moratorium on construction of garbage incinerators. Dangerous levels of dioxin have been found in cow and human milk near incinerators.

LBEEC Conducts Waste Utilization Program

Long Branch Environmental Education Center is conducting a waste utilization information program which includes three seminars on how to alleviate solid and hazardous waste problems through the cooperation of communities, government agencies, and the private sector. For more information, contact: Paul Gallimore, LBEEC, Rt.2 Box 132, Leicester, NC 28748 (704-683-3662).

Ruffians Damage Equipment at Burr Trail

"Vandals" opposed to the paving of Utah's Burr Trail pulled survey stakes and slashed tires, causing over $3000 damage to heavy equipment parked near the trail. As suggested by this incident, it is not too late to stop the paving of Burr Trail; this issue is still undecided.

Two Welcome Deaths Appear Imminent

The BLM/USFS land swap, proposed by the Reagan administration and opposed by environmentalists, appears to be dead. The Synfuels Corporation appears to be dying. The House voted to abolish it, but it has greater favor in the Senate, so the battle against sin-fuel isn't won yet.

Animals Continue to Retaliate

In the marshy forests known as the Sunderbans at the delta where the Ganga and Brahmaputra flow into the Bay of Bengal, forest officials have built electrical human dummies as a deterrance measure to stop the killing of honey collectors and other locals by tigers. Tigers have killed 800 people in this region. However, recent years have seen fewer victims. In 1982, tigers only ate 29 people.

In a much less severe form of retaliation, a beaver in Canton, New York, fought back at desecrating ORVs by felling a tree on top of a Jeep and a Blazer. The deftly dropped tree did $500 of damage to the vehicles.

A Benefit for Mono Lake, June 24-July 10, 1986

Mono Lake Committee is sponsoring a fund-raising excursion to the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador and Peru. This trip offers participants an opportunity to experience Darwin's "enchanted isles" and the rich cultures of the Andes. An optional 3-day extension into the jungles of Tambopata National Park in the headwaters of the Amazon is also available. Costs for double occupancy are $1805, $1910, or $2035 for the 12-day Galapagos-Ecuador segment. Airfare is additional. Part of the cost is a tax-deductible donation to help save Mono Lake. Reservations made after January 15 will be $100 more. Reservations close February 15. For information, send self-addressed stamped 4.5" X 9" envelope to: Adventure for MLC, c/o M. Bennett, 2719 Marin Ave, Berkeley, CA 94708.

ONRC Holds Fundraiser

The Oregon Natural Resources Council invites you on their Winter Whale Watching Cruises. The two hour cruise departs from Embarcadero Dock in Newport at 1 PM every Saturday from January 4 to February 22, 1986. Advance registration of $15 is required. Proceeds benefit ONRC's coastal conservation programs. For information contact: ONRC, 1161 Lincoln St, Eugene, OR 97401 (344-0675).

Pot Growers Kill Wildlife

In California's Mendocino County, some pot farmers are trapping, shooting, and poisoning deer, birds, and bears in order to protect their crops from consumption by wildlife. Economic concerns encourage this slaughter: a person may be fined up to $2000 per illegal wildlife kill, but marijuana can be worth $2000 per plant.

Truck Carrying Uranium Crashes

Unbeknownst to the American public, last August 27th a serious nuclear accident occurred which the national media failed to publicize. A truck, which was not marked to indicate its dangerous cargo, was carrying 45,000 pounds of uranium oxide when it collided with a train near Bowdon, North Dakota. The truck was carrying processed uranium — yellowcake — from a mill in Saskatchewan to a plant in Gore, Oklahoma. (The uranium had been mined at the Key Lake Mine, an environmental disaster in itself, which has uprooted Dene Indians from their land.) Thirty of the truck's 53 barrels ruptured, although these barrels met US Department of Transportation regulations. The yellowcake spilled outside, exposing 45 people to radiation before the area was cordoned off. The uranium was not covered until the following day. This was the 6th radioactive accident in North Dakota over the past nine years.

Attention All Poets

Announcing the first annual Utah Wilderness Association Poetry Competition. Deadline: Jan. 15, 1986. First Prize $50. For rules, send SASE to: Utah Wilderness Assn., 455 E. 400 S. B-40, SLC, UT 84111.

Reporter Seeks News of Ecodefense

Eco News (a syndicated radio and TV environmental news service) seeks persons engaged in monkeywrenching in defense of Earth. They wish to give these activities wide publicity. If you commit civil disobedience or illegal activities even more dastardly, and would like the public to know why you are committing such acts, contact: Nancy Pearlman, Eco News, POB 35473, Los Angeles, CA 90035 (213-202-7553).

Corporate Executives Sentenced for Dumping

In an uncommonly good legal settlement in California, the American Caster Company had to pay a $20,000 fine and $20,000 clean-up costs for its midnight dumping of toxic wastes, and its president and vice-president must serve 6-month jail sentences. American Caster Company was nailed for its illegal dumping by the Los Angeles Toxic Waste Strike Force. The Strike Force uses SWAT-type tactics to uncover illegal dumping. While we applaud the decision to break with tradition and jail the corporate executives, we suggest that rather than assigning such scoundrels to 6 months of imprisoned welfare, they be assigned to 6 years of hard labor cleaning up toxic dumps. Make them shovel sludge!

Poacher Spills the Bladders

In October, a Los Angeles businessman ran off highway 299 spilling 19 black bear gall bladders, 20 bear paws, and fresh venison. Police called the California Department of Fish & Game (DFG) and subsequently the man was fined $7800 and sentenced to 6 months in jail. DFG said that an illegal market in bear parts has been thriving in Los Angeles' Korean community and in the Orient. The value of bear bladders — nearly $1000 each — has promoted year-round poaching in northern California. Buyers pay up to $12 per gram for dried, processed gall bladders. Despite the lucrative profits made at the expense of bears, the normal penalty under the Fish & Game Code for illegal trade in wildlife items does not exceed a $5000 fine and/or 6 months in jail. Again, EF! suggests an alternative sentence: complete expropriation of the guilty party's finances (to be used to buy wild habitat); and 6 years of hard labor picking up trash, breaking up dams, etc.

Freddies' Sloppiness Allows Timber Thefts

Failure of FS officials at Olympic National Forest in Washington to properly monitor timber harvesting has allowed at least 15 loggers to steal an estimated $1 million worth of timber over the past few years. An investigation of these thefts has brought 15 loggers to face criminal indictment and has caused four Freddies to be "disciplined." EF! suggests that such discipline include planting $1 million of seedlings, and unpaid assistance in a thorough investigation of all other National Forests to see if they too are allowing timber theft.

Santa Cruz EF! Publishes Newsletter

Santa Cruz Earth First! now publishes a fine little newsletter dealing with ecological problems and EF! activities in California. If you wish to receive this, write to EF! Santa Cruz, Box 651, Capitola, CA 95010.

Letter Writing

One of our more avid letter-writers, Loon, suggested that we remind EF! letter-writers to put public officials on the spot by asking them what their position is and whether they will support the EF! proposals. If they ignore your questions, hound them until you get a straight answer. If they never send a decent reply, we may be able to use this evasiveness to make them look bad. As always, address representatives at House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515; senators at US Senate, Washington, DC 20510; Secretary of Interior Donald Hodel at 18th and C Streets, NW, Washington, DC 20240; and Director of National Park Service William Mott also at 18th and C Streets.

*Michigan residents: Write to your senators asking them to support S.1767, a Michigan Wilderness bill, with strengthening amendments to grant Wilderness status to Delirium and Government Island.

*Minnesota residents: Write in support of designating the northern border of Minnesota as a National Historic Trail, passing through Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, Superior National Forest, Voyageurs National Park, and Grand Portage National Monument, to be called the International Voyageurs Highway and Explorers Trail. Send letters to: President Reagan (White House, Washington, DC 20500), Donald Hodel, John Block (Agriculture Secretary, 14th St & Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250), Senator James McClure, Representative Morris Udall, Tom Gilbert (Trails Coordinator, National Park Service, 1709 Jackson St. Omaha, NE 68102), Clay Beal (Supervisor, Superior National Forest, Box 338, Duluth, MN 55801), and to all US senators and representatives from Minnesota.

*US residents: Write to Secretary Hodel and Director Mott in opposition to the proposed Circle Cliffs and Tar Sand Triangle tar sand projects in southeast Utah. Tell them that these boondoggle projects would damage parklands and Wilderness Study Areas.

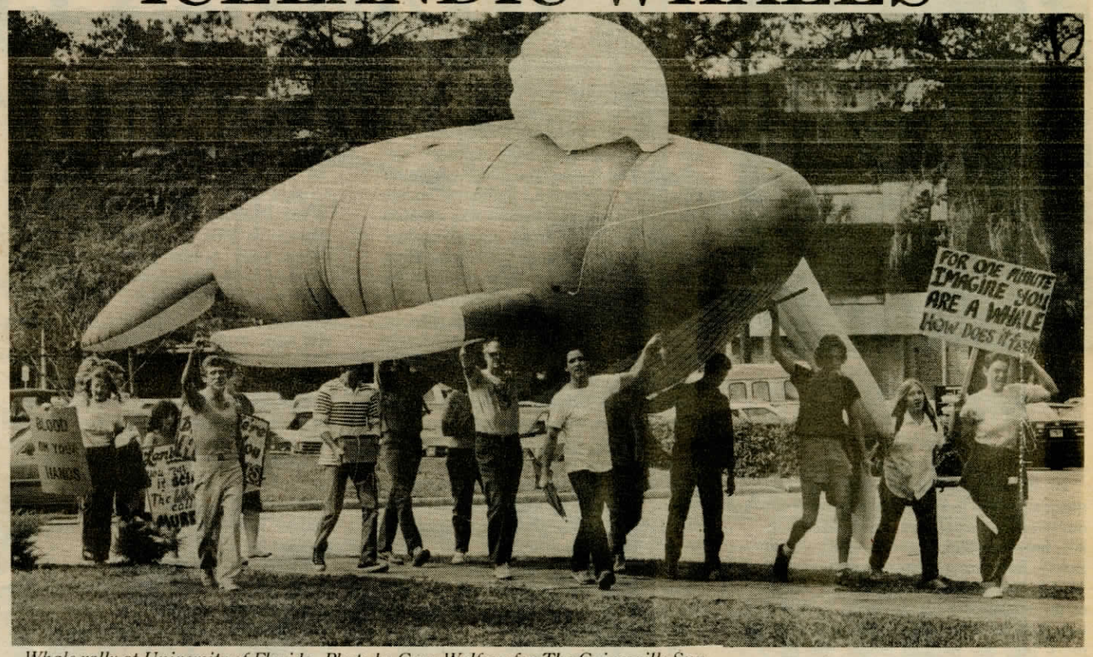
*Write to representatives telling them to oppose HR 1790, which would reauthorize and expand military reservations in the West whose land withdrawls have expired. Tell senators to oppose S 1444, which would amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act to allow the Interior Secretary to award "temporary" land use permits to any government department or agency, such as the Air Force.

*Write to Senator Jeff Bingaman (and to New Mexico representatives, if you are a NM resident) telling him to oppose the proposed Conner Dam on the Gila River, which would destroy 20 miles of riparian habitat.

*Write to Secretary of Transportation Elizabeth Dole (400 7th St. S.W., Washington, DC 205900i asking her to direct the Coast Guard to remove the wrecked ship, the A. Regina, from the coral reef off Mona Island (near Puerto Rico) which is being destroyed by the leaking ship.

*Write to Max Peterson (Chief, Forest Service, USDA, POB 2417, Washington, DC 20013) asking him to force the regional Forest Service in northwest Idaho to implement plans to restore the endangered population of mountain caribou in the Selkirk Mountains.

FLORIDA FIGHTS FOR ICELANDIC WHALES



Whale rally at University of Florida. Photo by Gary Wolfson for The Gainesville Sun.

By Holly Jensen

On October 31 the University of Florida decided to allow faculty member Richard Lambertsen to participate in a controversial whale research study in concert with the Icelandic government. University officials stated that while they do not "seek to encourage the killing of whales" they will, nevertheless, act to ensure that "the right of the faculty member to conduct research is fully protected." Despite pouring rains, protesters marched to Provost Robert Bryan's office accompanied by a 30 foot inflated whale named Flo to draw public attention to the issue. Apparently, the protest succeeded, for recently Lambertsen succumbed to pressure from environmentalists and scientists and withdrew his plans to participate in the destructive whale research.

The controversy over experimental whale kills emerged at this past July's International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting when Iceland elected to issue itself a scientific permit to kill approximately 220 whales per year for the next four years. After more than ten years of negotiations, in 1982 the IWC finally voted for a moratorium on all commercial whaling. This cessation would go into effect December 31 of this year. Presently all 10 species of great whales are listed by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES) under Appendix I, the most protected category. The majority view by the Scientific Committee was that the Icelandic proposal had little scientific merit and would not add appreciably to existing knowledge. The IWC has no authority over the regulation of whales killed for research; however, a resolution was adopted expressing "serious concern . . . at the possiblity of whaling for scientific purposes . . . assuming the characteristics of commercial whaling," and requesting that the countries involved (Iceland and South Korea) "take account of the advice and guidelines of the Scientific Committee." The whale meat was to have been sold to Japan for $30 million.

Brazil and Norway had also entertained the idea of using this loophole in the law to continue killing whales, but both rejected it. If Iceland pursues this course, there is no reason to assume that other countries will not also issue themselves permits, and thus effectively dissolve the integrity of this international treaty.

Fearing economic sanctions from the US, Japan recently made it known that they would not buy Iceland's whale meat. Since many believe that Iceland's primary interest in this is financial, the loss of a market may effectively scrap the entire project.

Anyone interested in stopping all whaling can obtain more information by calling Holly Jensen, 904-495-9203.

Holly Jensen is an animal rights activist living in Gainesville, Florida.

Rafters Jailed

by Canyon Frog

On October 25th, two rafters from Colorado Springs had the dubious honor of receiving the first jail terms ever imposed for violating federal rafting regulations. Eric Leaper and Collyn Bray were ordered to serve four days and two days respectively in Colorado lockups. The Federal Magistrate, Jill Clifton, decreed that Collyn showed "immaturity" when both she and Eric attempted to escape the Park Rangers who had ordered them to shore. Eric was also placed on two years probation, fined $500 and ordered to perform 200 hours of community service. Collyn was placed on a year's probation, fined $200 and ordered to give 40 hours of community service. Stuart Bray, the protest leader, who was the only member to plead innocent, received no jail term, but was fined $500 and given one year probation and cannot enter National Park land for one year.

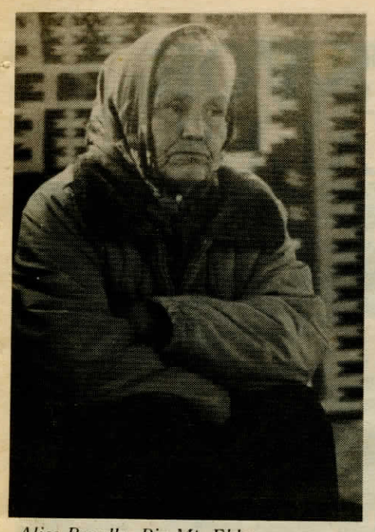
Obviously, the Feds wanted to make an example of these people. The Court missed the point completely in ignoring what the protest was about and focusing entirely on the letter of the law. Yes, these people broke laws, caused the Park Pigs embarrassment and upset their normal routine. But, damn it, they harmed no one and only attempted to bring before the courts and the press some obviously unfair federal laws that affect all people who run the few remaining wild rivers in America. The verdict stunk! Colorado Earth First! is proud to know these people and to support their efforts.

Wendy Wade

In the early snows that have softened western Washington, Earth has called back a friend from the senseless world of human circles. On November 21, Earth First!er Wendy Wade died in a car collision. She may have been on the way to a demonstration at the Mt. Baker/Snoqualmie National Forest Headquarters in Seattle. Wendy was a key link in the EF! chain around Puget Sound. Her energy helped get EF! going, and her friendship helped keep EF!ers going here in Washington. She takes with her hope and dedication, but she has left with us her strength to work toward the ideals we shared.

We think of Wendy, and we are saddened. But the love that we feel urges us to continue in the way that she wanted. To Wendy, that Earth may love her as we have, and that the memory of her may live on in all that we do. Earth First! through eternity.

THE NAVAJO-HOPI RELOCATION



Alice Benally, Big Mt. Elder. Photo by Cate Gilles 1985.

By Eric Holle

In modern industrial America, the natural world is something apart from our everyday existence, an isolated pocket, museum-like, that one visits all too rarely. Returning home after the annual 10 day "wilderness experience," many of us no doubt wish we could live in a way that would integrate our daily lives more into the natural world. We live, essentially, apart from Earth.

Most of the indigenous peoples of the world, before their cultures were so heavily impacted by contact with European "civilization," lived in tune with Earth. The concepts of parks or wilderness areas were foreign and unnecessary because they lived in harmony with their environment, and wild nature was a part of their daily existence. Native people no more needed National Parks than eagles need air traffic control.

In parts of the Navajo and Hopi reservations in northern Arizona, native people still live in the old ways, where rocks, trees, springs, and animals are sacred, and the ties to the land are so strong that to leave the land is to vanish altogether. Medicine women like 82 year old Irene Yazzie pray and offer yellow and white corn pollen for all living things, including vegetation, humans, four leggeds (animals), birds and insects.

Pressure from the US government and white society (the Mormon church, in particular) has caused the loss of much traditional homeland, creating poverty, overcrowding, overgrazing, and other hardships. But the people remain tied to the land, still speaking their native tongues, and refusing to yield to harassment by the US government. The traditional Dine (Navajo) and Hopi have never signed treaties with the US and remain sovereign nations. Their culture could teach us a great deal about living lightly on Earth, and defending Earth against those who would exploit it.

Public Law 93-531 tells these people they have to leave. Also called the Navajo-Hopi Land Settlement Act, it was passed in 1974 and promoted by Arizona Senator Barry Goldwater and Representative Morris Udall. On the surface, the law deals with a supposed "land dispute" between the Navajo and Hopi people, and pretends to form a just settlement. In reality, it is simply an attempt to force the people to leave the land and open it up to massive and destructive mineral exploitation. It will, if carried out, be one of the largest forced relocations in history, removing some 13,000 people from their ancestral homeland.

To begin to understand the situation, we must study the history of land grabbing in the Four Corners area, and the imposition of tribal councils on the people. Political boundaries and private land ownership have always been foreign concepts to the Navajo and Hopi tribes. The Hopi maintained permanent villages on the mesas with small farms nearby, and the Navajo were pastoral, traveling with their flocks between summer and winter homes. Any conflicts that *may* have existed between them were settled peacefully. Trading and intermarriage were common.

In 1892, the US government drew a rectangle on a map one degree long and one degree wide, and called it the Hopi reservation. The reservation boundaries did not consider traditional land use or topography, and excluded the original Hopi homeland and the farming village of Moencopi. Evidence exists that the Hopi reservation was created in part to allow legal action against white people who were helping the Hopi resist kidnapping of their children by Mormons and the US government for "Americanization" at boarding schools. In any case, the reservation was clearly established to give the US legal power over the Hopi and their land.

As federal troops arrived and traditional leaders were arrested, a split occurred among the Hopi. A few wanted an agreement with the whites, while most made no concessions. Originally called "friendlies" and "hostiles," the two groups today are called "progressives" and "traditionals." The wealthiest and most powerful Hopi family today are descendents of Emory Sekaquaptewa, who was kidnapped as a child and "Mormonized."

In the 1930's, President Roosevelt's commissioner of Indian Affairs, John Collier, chose Oliver La Farge to persuade the Hopi to adopt a constitution and establish a tribal council. Although voting was alien to the Hopi — their Kikmongwi (spiritual leaders) used a type of consensus decision making — and they showed little interest in forming a council, a bogus vote was held and the constitution and tribal council were established. This imposed form of government completely ignored the role of spiritual guidance in Hopi culture, and was boycotted by more than 80% of the people. Never recognized by the traditionals, the council was largely dormant until 1948 when the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) attempted to revive it to sign oil and gas leases. At that time Hopi religious leaders wrote to President Truman proclaiming their sovereignty and refusing to lease their sacred soil. Protests have continued until this day, and are certain to continue in the future.

In 1970, the Hopis wrote to President Nixon, "The white man, through his insensitivity to the way of Nature, has desecrated the face of the Mother Earth. The white man's advanced technological capacity has occurred as a result of his lack of regard for the spiritual path and for the way of all living things. The white man's desire for material possessions and power has blinded him to the pain he has caused Mother Earth by his quest for what he calls natural resources . . . The path of the Great Spirit has become difficult to see by almost all people, even by many Indians who have chosen instead to follow the path of the white man." In spite of such such protests, the BIA reorganized the tribal council with pro-development "progressives," who signed mineral leases with Peabody Coal Company.

The history of the Navajo tribal council is similar. In 1921, Standard Oil discovered oil on Navajo land and proposed a lease deal. Seventy-five Navajo elders unanimously rejected the deal, so the BIA created a "tribal council." When three men were persuaded to sign a lease they were made the tribal council.

The tribal councils of the Navajo and Hopi have continued to this day as puppet organizations maintained and funded by the BIA for the principal purpose of signing mineral leases with energy companies. The councils do not have the support of the majority of the people but the US government has shown no interest in listening to traditional leaders.

The reservation system imposed on the Navajo and Hopi people included a large shared section of land known as the Joint Use Area (JUA). It was in the JUA, on Black Mesa, in 1950 that Peabody Coal discovered the richest coal field in Arizona. At that time, John Boyden, former archbishop in the Mormon church, and a lawyer from the US Attorney's Office in Utah, appeared on the scene. Although 5 of the 10 Hopi villages refused to hire him, the BIA made him the attorney for the Hopi nation in 1952. Boyden worked diligently for years, convincing the tribal council to sign leases with energy companies. When Peabody signed a lease with the Navajo in 1964 to mine coal on Black Mesa, they needed a lease from the Hopi as well, and Boyden successfully railroaded one through. While representing the Hopi tribal council, he also did legal work for Peabody.

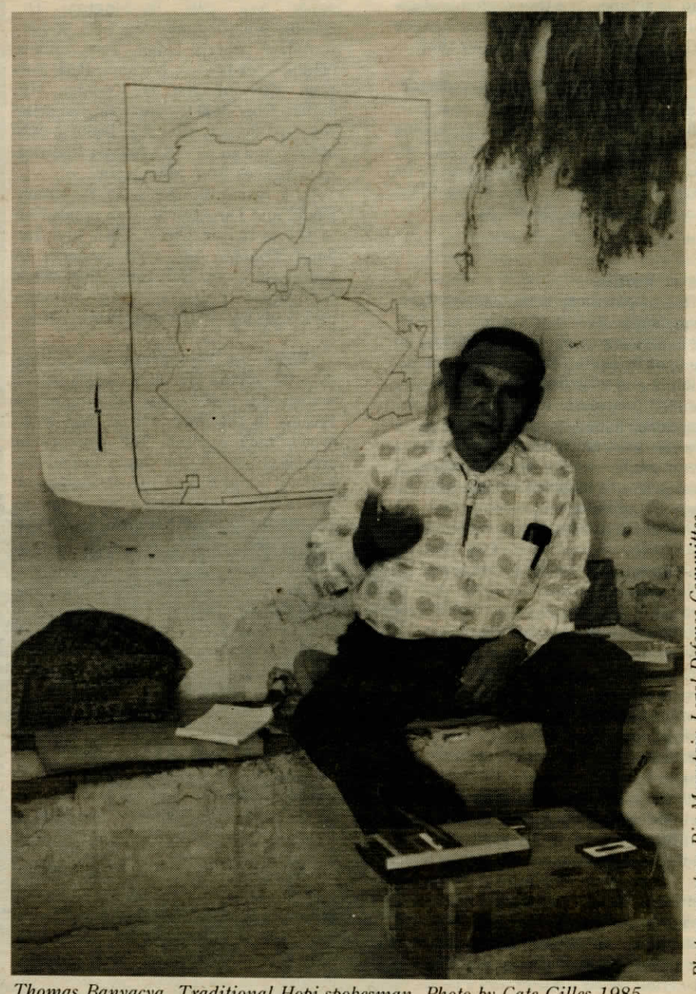
As a subsidiary of Kennecott Copper Company, Peabody was controlled by the Mormon church. Influential members of the church played key roles in the leasing game — Stewart Udall, as Secretary of the Interior, signed the Peabody leases, and Morris Udall (his brother) introduced a bill to exempt Indian lands from environmental protection laws.

Black Mesa is a sacred area to the traditional Dine and Hopi. The Hopi use it as a burial ground, and believe that its destruction will set the stage for the destruction of Earth. The Dine call Black Mesa the Female Mountain, a symbol of the balance of nature which it is their duty to protect. But Black Mesa has been desecrated almost beyond belief; the juniper and pinon covered sandstone has been drilled, blasted, and bulldozed into a huge scar. Mining has devoured 65,000 acres. Much of the coal is sent by rail to the Navajo Generating Plant in Page, and the rest is sent in a slurry pipeline to the Mohave Plant in Bullhead City, Arizona. The extensive water required by the slurry pipeline (3 million gallons per day) has caused Hopi and Navajo wells to go dry, and the situation is worsening as the water table drops. Use of Black Mesa coal in Southwest power plants has reduced atmospheric visibility to about one half of what it was 15 years ago. Three hundred and fifty tons of sulphur compounds and 210 tons of nitrogen compounds are released each day by the Four Corners Power Plant alone, causing a tremendous increase in acid rain and acidification of ground and surface water. Reclamation of such arid lands is virtually impossible, leading the National Academy of Sciences to propose declaring the Joint Use Area and the other Four Corners lands a "National Sacrifice Area."

The wealth from mineral exploitation goes to people like John Boyden, who received a million dollars from the Hopi tribal council alone. The tribes are paid only a few cents per ton for their coal, and many traditional people living near the mines suffer the environmental consequences but don't have electricity themselves. The electricity is consumed by the sprawling neon cities of southern Arizona and southern California.

Peabody Coal was the only energy company able to get mineral leases in the JUA. Neither tribal council alone was legally allowed to lease it. This created years of legal hassles for the BIA and energy companies. John Boyden began in the 1950s to find a way to get around this obstacle, and essentially created the Navajo-Hopi "land dispute." Boyden also filed a land claim, supposedly on behalf of the Hopi, which resulted in a loss of millions of acres for very little money. Both the traditionals and progressives have, to this day, refused to touch this money, saying that their homeland can never be sold.

In 1974, Boyden lobbied in Washington, DC, for a bill to divide the JUA and proceed with mineral leasing. At the same time, Evans and Associates, a Salt Lake City public relations firm, fabricated a range war on the reservation and wrote speeches for Hopi tribal councilmen about the "land dispute." Evans and Associates also represented WEST, a consortium of 23 utility companies with interests in Southwest power plants. All the sleazy activities of Boyden and his accomplices paid off: Congress passed PL-93-531, which split the JUA 50-50 and ordered a barbed wire fence constructed to separate the Navajo and Hopi. It also mandated a 90% reduction in livestock, which for



Photos courtesy Big Mountain Legal Defense Committee

Thomas Banyacya, Traditional Hopi spokesman. Photo by Cate Gilles 1985.

Katherine Smith, Dine Resistance leader, speaking at April 1985 Survival Gathering.

many traditionals was their only livelihood. This stock reduction was supposedly to protect Hopi lands from overgrazing, but where else in the West has the US government shown any concern about overgrazing?

The law also placed a freeze on construction or building improvements on property within the JUA. Residents can actually be arrested for simply patching a hole in their roof. The traditional people have no legal recourse, because all lawsuits have to go through the tribal councils. Morris Udall recently admitted that the stock reduction and construction freeze were instituted to "persuade" the Navajos to leave their land.

As fencing proceeded, about 100 Hopis and 10,000 Navajos were told (by the Relocation Commission established by the Act) they had to move. The traditional Navajo refused, saying that the land was their sacred homeland. In Navajo language, the closest word for relocation means to vanish altogether. In 1979 they sent a letter to the US government, saying: "The Dine Nation of Big Mountain wishes to inform the various Federal agencies that the sacred laws of the Dine give no authority for the Federal Government and its related agencies to intrude and disrupt the sacred lands of Big Mountain. We demand that the Federal Government remove all Government equipment and personnel from the area of Big Mountain by November 16, 1979. Any equipment left or that is in the Big Mountain area is subject to confiscation by the Independent Dine Nation . . . ." The Navajos also stated, "We further declare our right to live in peace and harmony with our Moqui (Hopi) neighbors, and cooperation between us will remain unchanged."

The BIA's attempts to enforce livestock reduction have met massive resistance, as have their attempts to complete the last 5 miles of fence. Even 80 and 90 year old women and men have been arrested while defending their homeland. The Relocation Commission's job is to force or coerce the Dine to leave their lands. The few who have done so have found life exceedingly difficult in racist border towns. Many are swindled out of the housing promised to them, and are prohibited from returning to their homelands. This results in high rates of alcoholism and suicide. The Relocation Commission is currently the object of Congressional investigation regarding their fraudulent dealings with relocatees. More than one commissioner has resigned in disgust at the unworkability of the Act, and its severe impacts on the people.

PL-93-531 requires all those who refuse to move to be forcibly removed by July 1986. This will prove to be a difficult task for the government. In the words of 62 year old Ruth Benally, "We won't stop (resisting). I've lived here all my life. Big Mountain is sacred to us. It is where we collect our herbs and medicines . . . When the time comes, if we don't have any other choice, we are going to use our fists. No matter how small I am, I'll fight all the way to the end." Pauline Whitesinger says "I will never leave this land. If they come to move me, they can shoot me right here."

A military solution to the government's problems enforcing relocation is a very real possibility, recalling the events at Wounded Knee in 1973. President Reagan's personal emissaries to solve the "dispute," William Clark (Secretary of Interior) and Richard Morris, have stated that those refusing to leave would "be declared as trespassers . . . the eviction could be enforced by US Marshals and the US military."

Many of the misconceptions regarding the situation on the reservations are the result of the media's and the government's failure to recognize traditional tribal leaders. Instead, they prefer to deal with people like Peter MacDonald or Abbot Sekaquaptewa, who were tribal chairmen for the Navajo and Hopi until 1982.

MacDonald, head of the Council of Energy Resource Tribes (CERT), is one of the wealthiest Indians in America. He is proud of the fact that the Navajo tribal council, under his leadership, opened up much reservation land to massive oil, coal, gas, and uranium exploitation. The Mormon Sekaquaptewa family is among the most affluent of the Hopis, with the largest cattle herd of all, and committed to using JUA lands for ranching and mining. (Mineral leasing provides all the funding for the Hopi tribal council.) The current Navajo and Hopi tribal chairmen, Peterson Zah and Ivan Sidney seem to be following in the footsteps of MacDonald and Sekaquaptewa.
pets. Write your legislators (US Senate, Washington, DC 20510; House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515), and to help further, contact: Big Mountain Legal Defense/Offense Committee, 124 North San Francisco, Flagstaff, AZ 86001 (602-774-6923); or: Big Mountain Support Group, 1412 Cypress, Berkeley, CA 94703 (415-841-6500).

Eric Holle is an environmental associate with the Rocky Mountain Peace Center in Boulder, Colorado.

ARIZONA

The Earth First! movement in Arizona continues to grow and stay busy — focusing mainly on the Mt. Graham and Grand Canyon issues. We attended public hearings in Phoenix and Flagstaff on the problem of aircraft in Grand Canyon and added a touch of humor to these otherwise insipid hearings. In Phoenix, we were grossly outnumbered by pro-aircraft speakers, rounded up and brought to the hearing by a bus hired by the filthy rich aircraft interests. However, in Flagstaff, cold snowy weather kept away the wimpy aircraft proponents so opponents of aircraft in Grand Canyon verbally trounced those sluggardly Canyon desecrators. We dramatized our testimonies by smashing a model helicopter (Dave Foreman); speaking on behalf of the creatures, in bear costume (Roger Featherstone) and mountain lion costume (Pete Rand); representing Aircraft First! and calling for a ban on unsightly hikers marring the scenery from the air (John Davis); and other fun stunts.

Arizona EF! strategized with other Mt. Graham preservationists on how to take advantage of Steward Observatory's abuse of Mt. Graham to prevent the Forest Service from renewing Steward's permit to hold temporary facilities atop Mt. Graham. Already Steward has cleared trees, erected structures, and bulldozed over an Indian sacred site, scattering hundreds of Indian artifacts.

Phoenix EF!ers held their first chapter meeting. They plan to focus their efforts on stopping Cliff Dam and restoring the Salt River to healthy riparian habitat, as opposed to building dams and then developing the Rio Salado project in the Salt River floodplain. Phoenix-area EF!ers should contact one of our Phoenix contacts (see our directory) to find how they can help.

Arizona EF! also continues to organize the acid rain strategy conference scheduled for January 24-25 here in Tucson.

Finally, Arizona EF! hereby announces a big EF! rally in Tucson on the evening of February 6 which will feature such luminaries as Ed Abbey, Doug Peacock, Dave Foreman and Bill Oliver. This rally will generate enthusiasm to greatly accelerate the pace of eco-activism carried on by Arizona EF!

Australian Battles

By John Seed

The struggle for the Australian rainforests continues. Presently most of the attention is on the state of Queensland where the arch-conservative government of scumbag Johannes Bjelke-Petterson continues to ravage the most precious biome in the country.

Last year we blockaded the construction of a road through the pristine rainforest wilderness but were beaten back by savage fines (up to $800) and savage police dogs that mauled several of our people. Now an ugly scar joins Cape Tribulation and Bloomfield; closing this "road" is high on our agenda. Meanwhile it is rumoured that all the creek crossings are going to wash out in the rainy season when the pipes under the road mysteriously get blocked.

Unfortunately, Joh's gerrymandering of voting district boundaries means that he only needs 35% of the vote to win state elections next year.

Roading, logging, mining and real estate development all threaten Australia's wet tropics where 30% of the country's species inhabit 1/10 of 1% of the land area. The rainforests left in Australia would fit into a circle with a radius of 50 miles.

We took actions in Sydney over the rainforests. The largest of the rainforest loggers was recently taken over by the giant washing-machine manufacturer, Email, so we held press conferences and street theatre outside their corporate headquarters. Our action at their annual general meeting attracted a lot of media attention. We issued a press release stating that Australia's biggest manufacturer of refrigerators was logging the last virgin lowland tropical rainforest in the country at Downey Creek in north Queensland. We announced a press conference and told the press that there would be street theatre including two treespirits dancing around an Email refrigerator. The dance would culminate in a woman taking an axe and logging the fridge — to make the point that logging of a virgin rainforest was as inappropriate as logging a refrigerator. The press came from everywhere for that action.

At the Annual General Meeting, the shareholders resolved to sell the offending subsidiary, but we announced that they would have to pull it apart because it wasn't worth a pinch of shit. No one wold buy a company which was a target for every conservation group in Australia.

An interesting thing we have learned from this is that cutting the wires on a company (unlike monkeywrenching a bulldozer) is legal, yet has the potential to bring a lot of bulldozers to a halt. So . . . we will fight them in the stockmarkets! We will chase them through the financial columns of the daily papers!

Meanwhile, in New South Wales, the police have finally dropped charges against 100 or so people arrested defending Mt. Nardi (now included in the new Nightcap National Park and nominated by the NSW government for World Heritage listing). Most people are pleased to have the charges dropped, but several of us have written to the Police Commissioner stating that we refuse to have these charges dropped. After having them hanging over our heads for three years, after having our good names dragged through the mud, we insist on our day in court to prove our innocence. I am particularly offended by this arrest because of how it happened: One day several of us descended into Grier's Scrub to inspect the logging operations — gianormous Euclalyptus Grandis crashing to the forest floor off steep slopes, clearing a couple acres as each huge crown swept down the slopes. We discovered that erosion mitigation conditions were being breached and other laws relating to logging were being broken, so I CB'd back to base and asked them to call the cops. We then sat in front of the dozers until they arrived. When constables Hayes and Cheeseman arrived, they had the temerity to arrest us when we refused to leave, instead of arrresting the loggers! I insist on cross-examining the two constables and making sure that they never make that kind of mistake again.

Nightcap Blockade, Australia, September 1982.

INTERNA
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Gunawaw Alif of Indonesia and Doug Norlen of Oregon Earth First!

Charles Secrett of Friends of the Earth — United Kingdom.

By John Davis

The Rainforest Conference organized by Randy Hayes, Mike Roselle, and other Earth First!ers and held Novembe" 15-18 near San Francisco was a great success. Randy gathered environmental activists from 12 countries, several American Indian tribes, and 35 groups to plan strategies to combat what may be the most serious environmental problem of the decade — the destruction of tropical rainforests. Earth First! was represented by a significant portion of the 90 participants, and this portion grew during the conference as more and more people recognized their affinity with the EF! movement.

The results of the conference were impressive: Participants solidified the Rainforest Action and Information Network, and developed a tentative agenda for the Network. The Network will be coordinated by Randy and will consist of a loose alliance of environmental groups, native rights groups and unaffiliated activists, with a steering committee to direct its activities. Randy will continue to work in San Francisco on the rainforest campaign, providing a clearinghouse for rainforest news from throughout the world. The Network will publish emergency news bulletins to keep activists informed of upcoming demonstrations and blockades, as well as giving information on were to write advocacy letters and where to write for data on forests and threats to forests. Additionally, Charles Secrett, of Friends of the Earth - England; John Seed of EF! Australia; and Randy will coordinate efforts to produce an international rainforest newsletter — perhaps retaining the title *World Rainforest Report*.

Campaigns discussed by the Network are basically those which EF! had already tentatively planned. Plans are still tentative, but it looks like we can expect the following: First, Bay Area EF!ers will launch a national campaign to stop US importation of rainforest beef. Mike Roselle expects this campaign to involve using silent agitators (stickers), picket lines, and port blockades to force Burger King, Campbell's Soups (makers of Swanson TV dinners, which contain Central American beef), Mariott Corporation (owners of Roy Rogers and Hot Shoppe restaurants, which use Central American beef), and other guilty firms to stop importing beef from Central America. While EF! uses direct action to try to end the rainforest beef problem, mainstream groups within the Network will pursue legislative and lobbying channels toward the same end.

Second, again under the leadership of the Bay Area chapter, EF! will initiate a campaign to stop US importation of tropical hardwoods. On this campaign, EF! will rely heavily on information to be found by the North American Water Office, mainstream US environmentalists, and Charles Secrett, who developed FOE-England's impressive tropical hardwoods campaign. This campaign — like the English campaign — will aim to develop consumer pressure upon wood importers to begin to buy tropical hardwoods only if those hardwoods were produced using sustainable timber practices. Currently, the US is the world's second leading importer of tropical woods (Japan is first; England is third), and no tropical woods are harvested in a sustainable fashion, so pressure from US consumers is crucial. The hardwoods campaign will involve direct actions by Earth First! and orthodox actions by mainstream groups.

Third, and perhaps most important, is the campaign to force multilateral development banks (MDBs) to stop financing projects which destroy rainforests. Presently, the World Bank and other MDBs are loaning money for some of the most ecologically, socially, and economically destructive projects ever undertaken. Catherine Caufield, author of the excellent book, *In the Rainforest*, suggested that the Network place among its top priorities battles against the following projects: the Indonesian transmigration project, which will force five million Javanese residents to relocate to outer islands where they will unavoidably destroy rainforests and indigenous peoples; the Grand Carajas project, which will involve spending $62 billion to build towns, dams, and ranches in Brazil's Amazon region; the Narmada dams in India, which will flood ecosystems and displace millions of native people; the Acre road in Brazil, a continuation of the 1500 mile dead-end road built into Brazil's Amazon region as part of the Polonoroeste project; and the Bakun Dam in Malaysia. The Network will use a wide range of activities to pressure the MDBs to cancel plans to fund these boondoggle projects.

Simon Muchiru (Kenya), Josh Karliner (USA), and Emmy Hafield (Indonesia) at International Rainforest Conference. Photo by David Cross.

Among the activities will be demonstrations in Washington, DC, against the Inter-American Development Bank — perhaps the worst of the MDBs — and the World Bank — the most important of the MDBs. One of the Native Americans at the conference wisely suggested that on the day of the World Bank protest, we call for all concerned Americans to abstain from any money-spending for the day. This idea, and all other plans, will be developed through the bulletin and rainforest report as the campaigns progress.

One final priority agreed upon by conference participants is an effort to save the only tropical rainforests remaining in the US — the remnant rainforests in Hawaii. Hawaii's rainforests are threatened by geothermal developments and woodchipping. The native Hawaiian representative at the conference said that Hawaiians, like activists in underdeveloped countries, urgently need information so that they can pursue legislative and legal channels to stop the rapid deforestation now occurring.

The Rainforest Action and Information Network and Earth First! need activists — letter-writers, organizers, demonstrators, blockaders, etc. — for what may be the most important ecological battle of the decade. If you are willing to help in any way, or if you wish to receive Network publications, please contact: Randy Hayes, Rainforest Action Network, 466 Green St. Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94133 (415-433-7373 or 771-8012).

by Karen Pickett

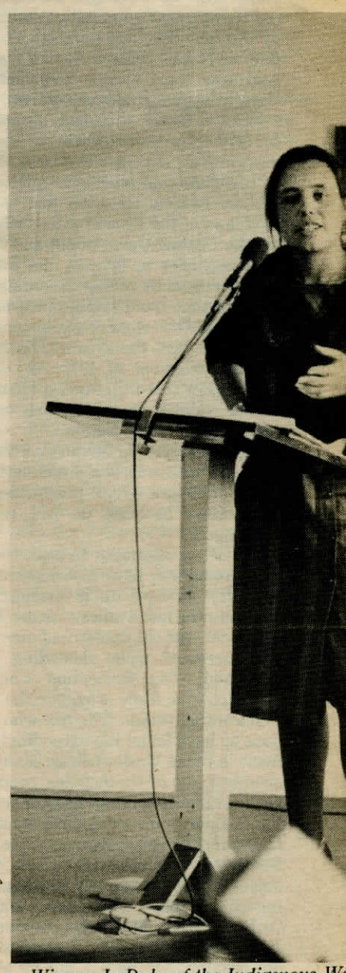
In order to arm Bay Area Earth First!ers and other activists with more information, ideas and support, and to provide a medium for discussion of tactics, participants from the November Rainforest Action Network Conference (see John Davis' article) were invited to attend a public forum in Berkeley immediately following the conference. One hundred and fifty people filled a hall on the UC Berkeley campus, including many conference participants who were here from out of the country. The purpose of the forum, and it was well-served, was to look at avenues of action, and vulnerable agencies and areas to target.

As you know, the rainforest problem is enormous and the villains are many, but most of the pillagers do have a common origin in the so-called developed countries, the US being a primary culprit. That is why we must do something about the problems here, far from the forests themselves; this is where the power base lies. When looking at the corporate consumers of tropical forests, you find names like Weyerhauser and Georgia-Pacific; and a look at the multilateral lending institutions that fund much of the destruction shows the balance of power tipped in our direction, the US having about 25% of the voting power in World Bank decisions, and about 33% in the Inter-American Development Bank.

To find the villains, we must look at the causes of destruction. There are, as outlined by panel participant Catherine Caufield (author of *In the Rainforest*), four main pressures on the rainforest: cattle ranching, logging, slash and burn agriculture, and industrial development.

Fernando Bejerano originally of Mexico n
Lopez of Native Hawaiians.

Mike McCloskey of the Sierra Club an



Photos by David Cross.

Winona LaDuke of the Indigenous W

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with the United Farm Workers and Lehua

onference organizer Randy Hayes.

en's Network.

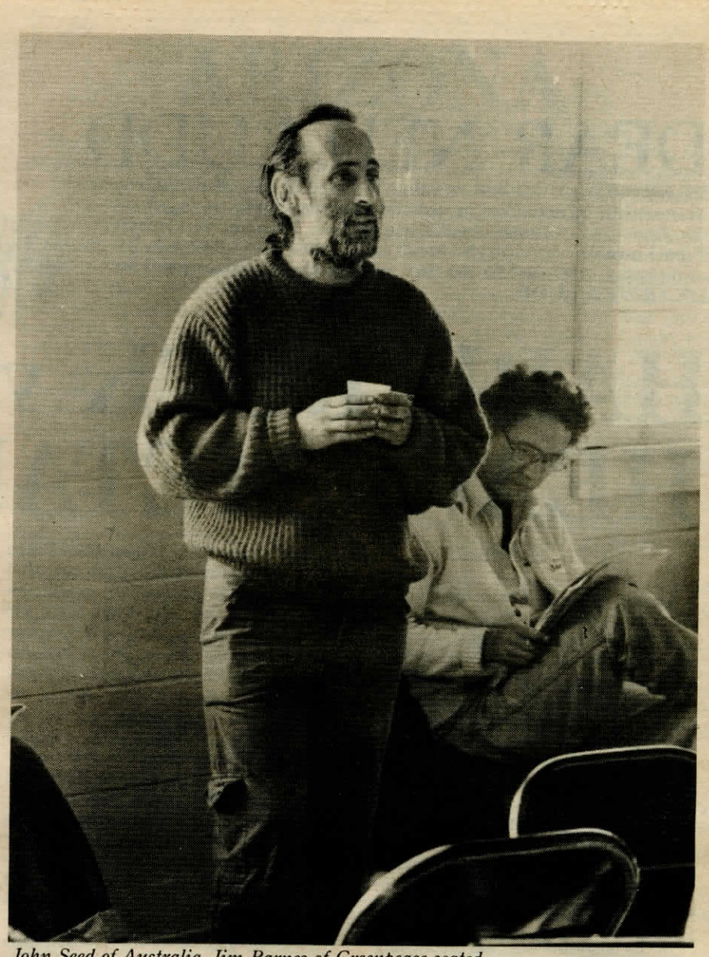
To put things in perspective, we must understand that the widespread use of slash and burn techniques in the areas where we now see it is due primarily to land maldistribution. Citing the transmigration project of Indonesia, which would move two million people in the next five years from Java to the outer islands of Indonesia, Catherine pointed out how the unjust political and economic motives of the transmigration project are masked as a response to "population pressure," and result in cultural and ecological devastation. The transmigration project, because it has proven to be a disaster for the rainforest and the people and a waste of money, is vulnerable to pressure. To give an idea of the "imaginative boondoggles" the developers have envisioned for rainforest areas, Catherine outlined the Gran Carajas scheme. This $4 billion program would turn Amazon rainforest into a huge industrial area the size of Kansas and Texas combined. This would include ten large cities, roads, 40 dams, railways, ten plantations, iron smelters, bauxite smelters, and ten mines — copper and tin and the largest iron mine in the world. There's no way it will all happen, says Catherine, but once the villainous schemers have contrived a plan like this, it takes on a life of its own and becomes hard to stop. They will likely build a few roads and mines, opening the area and forcing the native people off the land. It is funded by a consortium of private Japanese, Swiss and American banks. Catherine said, "You can be sure that one way or another the World Bank will be in on it." Clearly, the lending institutions are a target on this one.

The "burger connection" campaign is one that the Bay Area group and other EF! groups have been following for some time. The validity of our fast food target, Burger King, was upheld by Doug Shane, a researcher who has spent ten years studying Latin American rainforests and problems associated with them. In 1979 the US government, in its perfunctory look at the role of cattle ranching in rainforest destruction, contracted Doug to write a report on the effects of ranching on the forests of Central America. His report, "Hoofprints on the Forest," was significantly more detailed than what the State Department had in mind, but has served as a valuable source of information for those looking into the burger connection. Unfortunately, said Doug, the State Department was not one who made good use of his work. For our audience, Doug described the process by which the landless poor seek new lands for subsistence farming, practicing slash and burn techniques, which in years past were done on a small enough scale that lands could regenerate. Now, however, cattle ranchers move in on these cleared lands, and clear additional lands to establish ranches that are only good for a few years before new lands are needed. Because the soil structure is so poor, once the nutrient-rich biomass is removed, the sun bakes the soil, and the laterite surface turns into something akin to concrete. So goes the destruction in the burger production department.

Doug raised the idea of a "dirty dozen" list. His candidates for the list include Burger King, the Mariott Corporation (Roy Rogers et al), and Campbells Soups. Doug explained that tropical beef finds its way into all kinds of products, including baby food and Swanson's frozen dinners.

Doug also suggested that the rainforest campaign could gain allies from the food industry, like the United Food and Commerce workers (AFL-CIO). If the unions were educated about the contaminants that are brought to this country with the beef — to workers and consumers alike — including banned herbicides and pesticides, would they want to handle these products?

Doug Shane and Jim Nations, who has also done extensive research on the beef connection, have agreed to try to get the American Cattleman's Association to lobby to get labelling on beef (as to its point of origin) that would get to the consumer. The American Cattleman's Association and the National Cattleman's Association are opposed to large imports of beef and have said that they could meet domestic demand. Both organizations are possible allies in this campaign, strange bedfellows with environmentalists though they would be.



John Seed of Australia. Jim Barnes of Greenpeace seated.

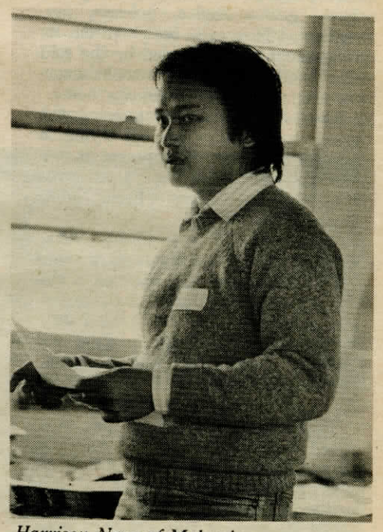
Charles Secrett, another panel member, was representing Friends of the Earth from Great Britain (F.O.E.-U.K., try to say that without chuckling or groaning and be glad our initials are simple). They have worked on a successful campaign to curtail the use and importation of tropical hardwoods, using consumer education as the primary tool, and Charles gave advice from that campaign. To bring the problem home, he said, you have to simplify it so that the people understand that they and their consumer habits make a difference. If the fact that tropical forests are the watershed for a large portion of the world's water supply doesn't grab your neighbors, try the fact that a quarter of all our pharmaceutical chemicals come from tropical forests. And the fact that, along with the trees, killing these forests is destroying the indigenous people who know how to use these medicinal plants. The successful Nestle boycott shows that consumer campaigns can succeed.

FOE-UK decided to focus on tropical hardwoods because the activities of the international timber industry are responsible for one-fourth of tropical forest destruction, and Britain is a major importer of tropical hardwoods. They planned actions targetting shoppers, to teach shoppers to look for the origin of products before buying. Charles told us that FOE presented timber industries with a code of conduct and asked them to buy only products produced in a sustainable manner. They agreed "in principal." The consumer campaign was launched after FOE commissioned a report on the timber trade: what species were traded, how much came to Britain, what percentage of each country's output it was, the ports, shipping lines, importers involved, etc. Then about 200 local groups helped produce a tropical hardwood product list that names, in 50 cities, all the shops and all the products including brand names, model, type of wood used, etc., and then went public and asked people not to buy these products. To add pressure, they produced stickers to put on products in "uncooperative" shops. These stickers say things like "11 million acres were laid to rest for this bed," "kitchen units consume 11 million acres a year," "a monkey lost his nuts for this product." Posters were produced with the message that every year 11 million acres are destroyed for the sake of convenience, "convenience" being the English term for toilet (yes, they do have mahogany toilet seats in Great Britain). If the consumer campaign does not product the desired results, Charles said they will consider peaceful direct action in the ports of entry.

Non-violent direct action was discussed by John Seed from Australia, who brought with him the film "Give Trees a Chance," (which can be borrowed from EF! Tucson) the excellent film that documents the successful Terania Rainforest blockade in New South Wales. John also discussed actions in the Solomon Islands, and told the story of the efforts of the Karoga tribe to prevent the logging of their rainforest, which culminated in the burning of the Lever Corporation's logging camp. (See past issues of *EF!*)

The discussions that took place at this forum gave us a lot of food for thought. We are committed to an active campaign, and using this input, are developing plans. We must realize that in this country we have the power base that wields the most influence regarding the billions of dollars that are spent every year to fund projects that destroy rainforests. And we have our own vanishing tropical forest to save — in Hawaii. One hundred acres a minute destroyed — it's staggering. But let's stagger up off our butts and do something. If you want to help, please contact the Bay Area local group (POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516).

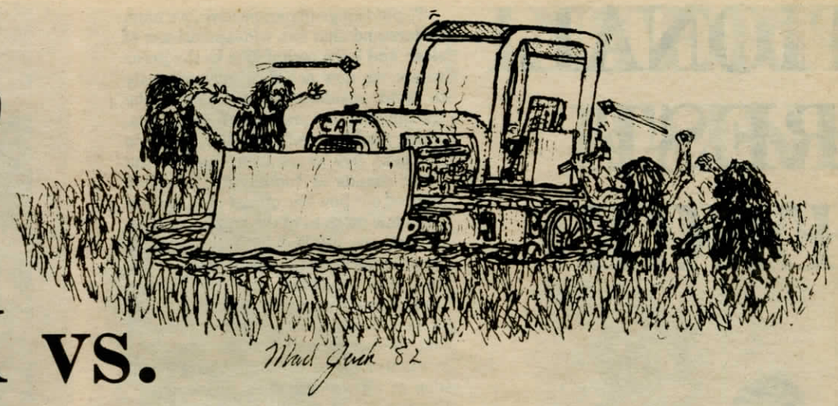
Karen Pickett is a coordinator of the Bay Area Earth First! group.



Harrison Ngau of Malaysia.

DEAR NED LUDD

DEAR NED LUDD is a regular feature in *Earth First!* for discussion of creative means of effective defense against the forces of industrial totalitarianism. Neither the Earth First! movement nor the staff of *Earth First!* necessarily encourage anyone to do any of the things discussed in DEAR NED LUDD.



HARD ROCK vs. HEAVY METAL

By T.O. Hellenbach

Certain types of rock could well be the ideal type of anti-sawblade "pin" for planting in condemned trees. As with other types of monkeywrenching, proper materials and technique are essential.

EQUIPMENT: Begin by obtaining copies of lapidary magazines at a quality newsstand. Among these are *Gems and Minerals* and *Lapidary Journal*. Scan the ads for lapidary supply houses and supplies in large cities. For security reasons, select a business in a distant city. For example, if you live in Oregon, plan a trip to the Los Angeles area to make your equipment purchases in cash. Never leave your name or address.

In the magazine ads, you are looking for either manufacturers or retailers of lapidary saws, particularly a type called a "trim" saw, used to cut small stones into precise sizes and shapes. This power tool handles a circular saw blade made of high grade steel core with a cutting edge impregnated with chips of industrial or human-made diamond. The smallest size, a six-inch blade, should be more than adequate. These circular sawblades are far better than band or wire saws for our purposes, as they will handle greater pressures. Make sure your trim saw has a vise for holding the stone during cutting. You will also want to purchase the recommended coolant, as it is essential that the saw blade's bottom edge is immersed in this oil-based protective material. An extra blade or two can save you a return trip sould you damage your first one while learning proper cutting technique. Trim saws vary in price from about $160 to $350, with good quality models averaging around $300. Diamond blades range in price from $20 to $45. The more costly types are thin blades for fine cutting with a minimum of material loss (important only for work with precious and semi-precious stones), so the lower priced general-purpose blades are what you will need. Dulled or damaged blades can be re-paired and re-surfaced by manufacturers, but be sure you don't leave a name and address for investigators to trace you.

Information on proper use of the trim saw can be found at a large public library in lapidary and jewelry-making books, but make sure you read and/or photocopy the information at the library. If you check a book out, you will leave a paper trail betraying your interest in this subject.

Following are some of the most important rules for correct operation of a trim saw:

1) Always put safety first. Wear safety glasses. Be patient while learning to use the saw.

2) Don't use long extension cords to power the saw as this will cause a loss of power through voltage drop.

3) Check the coolant level to insure proper levels. Otherwise you will quickly destroy an expensive blade.

4) Make sure the surface of the rock you are cutting into is at right angles to the blade. Cutting into an angled surface can create side pressures that bring about a wobble and rapid wear-out of the blade.

5) Slow down at the end of every cut to keep the rock from breaking and leaving a jagged spur protruding from the cut surface.

Stones can be cut into any elongated shape that will fit into the holes drilled into trees, generally not exceeding one inch in diameter. After cutting, clean the stone "pins" in warm water and a little dish soap. When finished, they must be free of fingerprints and stored in a container to prevent accedental handling with bare hands.

ROCK TYPES: The large majority of rock types are not suitable for modification into "pins" simply because they are not hard enough to damage a sawmill blade. For a number of reasons, quartz and related minerals are perhaps best. On the Moh's scale of hardness (from one to ten), quartz rates a seven, making it harder than iron and steel which ranks from 5.5 to 6.5. Furthermore, virtually anyone with outdoor experience will recognize quartz in the field. Quartz is found throughout most of the US.

Quartz comes in a variety of colors, from clear or milky white, to rose or reddish, yellowish, and even blue grey in some gold-bearing regions. A good field test for rocks you think are quartz can be carried out with a small piece of glass. If the rock is quartz, it will scratch the glass. If not, it is simply a quartz look-alike. Start with small quartz rocks until you know what your trim saw can handle. Proper use of the saw will permit a single diamond blade to cut thousands of square inches of quartz.

LOWER COST ALTERNATIVES: If the cost of procuring a trim saw is prohibitive, one can scour the area of quartz deposits for small fragments or river-worn pieces small enough to insert into a one-inch hole. On the negative side, they can be difficult to load into the drilled hole and are less likely to come into proper contact with a sawblade.

Smaller quartz gravel can be combined with cement to make a round pin of some value. First, roll-up heavy paper and glue it into tubes one-inch in diameter or a little less. Mix three parts gravel with one part cement and one and one-half parts sand. Add water, a little at a time, until the mix is wet but still very stiff. Next, load it into the tube a little at a time and use a dowel to tamp it into place, eliminating air bubbles. Wearing plastic gloves will protect your hands from the lime in the cement. Set your pins in a cool but moist place to cure. Ideal conditions are 70 degrees fahrenheit and 80 per cent relative humidity. Allow them to cure from three to six months for maximum strength. Finally, peel off the paper tube exterior and paint the pins with a coat of exterior latex paint. The paint will protect the concrete from deterioration both inside and outside the tree. Make sure the concrete is never exposed to freezing temperatures while curing. Use as large pieces of quartz gravel as is feasible.

Still another low cost pin involves using large quartz gravel or cobbles in a matrix of a good quality resin epoxy available at hardware stores and lumber yards. Form it into pins in the same way you would the concrete method. This can allow you to use larger quartz rock fragments with a better chance of impacting a blade properly. The paper can be soaked in water and gently scrubbed off once the epoxy has set-up properly.

Previous episodes of the "Blade Ruiner" provide detailed information on methods for drilling trees and disguising the presence of these pins designed to defeat the metal detector. As always, avoid planting pins in the lower three feet of a tree where they can cause chainsaw kickback, perhaps the leading cause of logging industry injuries. After all, we're in it to save trees, not hurt people.

On the EDGE The Barbaric Ritual of Winter

by Head of Joaquin

By the time these words reach the printed page, one of the most obscene, barbaric, unforgivable rituals of modern man will have started its bloody annual slaughter. Late in November in most states each year, the trapping season begins — the fur-bearing season, the leghold, steel jaw trap, the agonizing, terrorizing wait for death by bewildered, frantic wild animals. Coyotes, foxes, golden eagles, bobcats, porcupines, I have even seen a raven, its wing caught and mangled by the cold steel teeth of the killer without a conscience — like the man who sets them.

These men — and I use the word with great skepticism — are not trying to make a living out of trapping. It is a "hobby," and they call themselves "sportsmen." Give me a break, guys. You're killers.

We have talked about all this before. And we have talked about trap-taking . . . breaking the economic back of the trapping industry, making it too expensive is the only way to end this hobby. We cannot afford to wait for these barbarians to catch up with the already imperceptible advance of civilization. We have to hit their pocket books.

This information should be considered an addendum to a previous story submitted here and reprinted in Foreman's book *Ecodefense*. Since its publication, I have learned some additional information about this wretched practice.

Types of Sets

A trap and all its trimmings is called a set, and it's not too difficult to tell just what the trapper is after. Bobcat and fox traps are incredibly obvious; a coyote's is extremely difficult to spot. Bobcats, and to a lesser extent foxes, are very meticulous about where they place their feet. A cat moving along a canyon wall or a sandy wash will gingerly step over a rock or twig. They will stay close to the edge of the wall or stream bank. Trappers will try to funnel their victims toward the jaws and will frequently cut tree limbs and strategically place them along the intended route. That is your first clue and it's fairly obvious. The trap set itself can hardly be missed. The trapper will of course bury the trap, but will place rocks or twigs around the trap. The bobcat, not wanting to step on the rocks/twigs will walk between them, into the jaws of death. (See diagram.) But the trapper does not like to leave anything to chance; you can almost guarantee that a second trap will be placed just beyond the first.

Coyotes are so smart, they are so clever that a coyote would immediately cast a wary eye on a bobcat set and stay clear of it. Thus coyote sets are difficult to detect. They are buried with nothing to draw the coyote near. However, I have located several and they have always been under large cedar trees along sandy washes.

Where to Look

As I said in the first installment, trappers are lazy bastards; they like to work out of their macho pickup trucks. Drive up the main highway and start checking intersecting dirt roads. Look for sandy washes that cross the dirt road, and intersecting canyons and narrow valleys. Bobcats will stay very close to the canyon wall. They will not travel randomly. A bobcat will pick its next point of cover as it moves downcountry. And it hates to walk in snow. So check the canyon edge that receives more sunlight. It will pick that route.

Frequently the slob trapper will not even want to get out of his truck at all. He will instead rig up a lazy-boy, two sticks perched delicately against each other — if the trap has been disturbed, the lazy-boy will collapse. A good pair of binoculars will help you spot them.

Trap-Lines

A trap-line rarely consists of more than two sets, occasionally three sets. (Remember each set consists of two traps.) A trapper will run trap lines along several parallel routes. It is possible to work up one drainage and down the next, repeating the process and effectively clearing an area.

Be Careful

I cannot overstress this. These are not normal people. They are mutants. They are sub-humans who will not hesitate to use modern technology, a high powered rifle, to do very barbaric things to your body. If a trapper comes upon you messing with his sets, you have two choices:

1) You can give him a lecture on the barbarism of trapping, that this hideous practice has no place in the civilized world and that he should be ashamed of himself. He will probably kill you or beat you until you're no longer recognizable as a human being and you can become a martyr for a week or a month or until your friends forget and go on with life.

2) Act stupid. Talk with an Arkansas accent. If you're actually holding the trap, ask him what it is. If you're prodding around, tell him you think there's buried treasure there. Speak derisively of hippies and tree huggers and say "by golly" a lot. It might save your life.

Again, check the information already available in Foreman's book. In Utah, trapping starts in late November. Check with your state wildlife office. Let's get them.

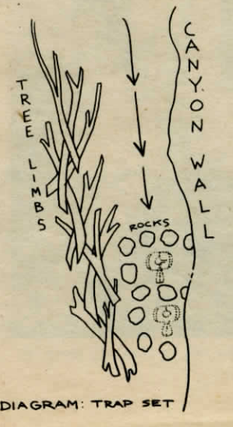


DIAGRAM: TRAP SET

EPISODE FOUR: HARD ROCK vs. HEAVY METAL

T.D. HELLENBACH'S

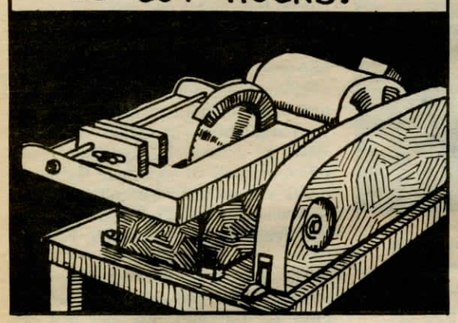
BLADE RUINER

INTENT UPON STAYING ONE STEP AHEAD OF THE FOREST (DIS-)SERVICE, THE BLADE RUINER HAS BEGUN TO PREPARE HIS NEXT SURPRISE — THE HARDEST "SPIKE" EVER ENCOUNTERED!

FROM HIS LOCAL NEWSTAND HE BOUGHT SEVERAL GEM AND LAPIDARY MAGAZINES.

STUDY OF THE MAGAZINE ADS REVEALED A LARGE LAPIDARY SUPPLY HOUSE LESS THAN A DAY'S DRIVE DOWN THE CONGESTED COASTAL FREEWAY.

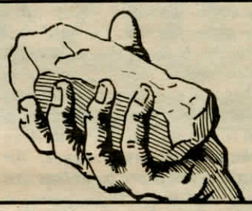
THERE HE PURCHASED A TRIM SAW WITH DIAMOND SAW BLADES DESIGNED TO CUT ROCKS!



HE DIDN'T KNOW WHICH HURT WORST: THE THREE HUNDRED BUCKS...

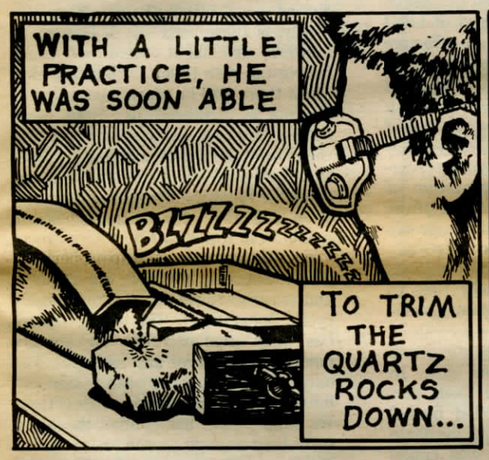
...OR THE DAMN ROCK HAMMER!

SOON HE FOUND THAT THE SMALL FRAGMENTS OF QUARTZ LAYING AROUND AT THE BASE OF LARGE OUTCROPS



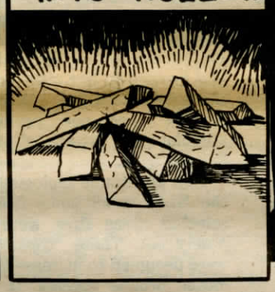
WERE JUST THE SIZE HE NEEDED.

WITH A LITTLE PRACTICE, HE WAS SOON ABLE



TO TRIM THE QUARTZ ROCKS DOWN...

TO AN ASSORTMENT OF PIECES SUITABLE FOR INSERTING INTO HOLES...



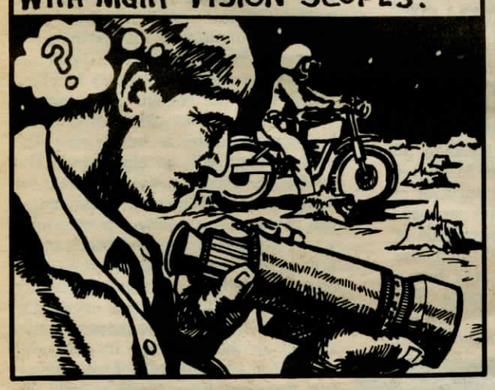
DRILLED AT NIGHT INTO ANCIENT TREES MARKED FOR DEATH!

SOON EVERY SAWMILL WAS PLAGUED WITH DAMAGED AND BROKEN BLADES. THE CHAINSAW SLAUGHTER OF THOUSAND YEAR-OLD TREES BEGAN TO SLOW DOWN.

FRUSTRATED AT EVERY TURN...

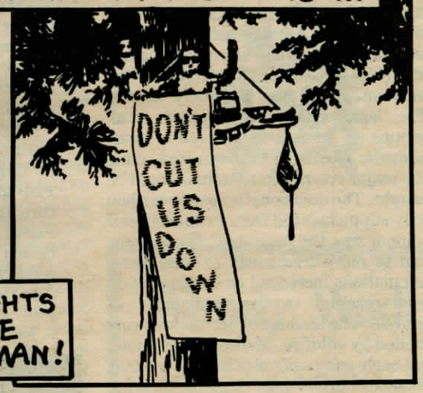
THE FOREST SERVICE OFFERED REWARDS...

...DISPATCHED STAKE-OUT TEAMS WITH NIGHT VISION SCOPES.



BUT THERE WERE TOO MANY NIGHTS AND TOO MUCH FOREST... AND THE BLADE RUINER WAS A CAUTIOUS MAN!

COMPLICATING MATTERS WERE "TREE SITTERS"...

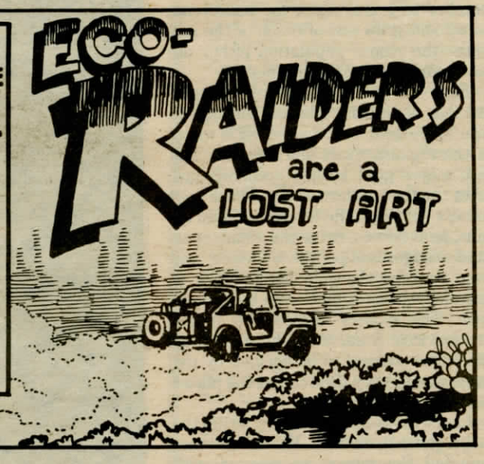


PROTESTERS...

FINALLY, RELUCTANT OFFICIALS WERE FORCED TO PROTECT WILDERNESS FOREST THAT NO CORPORATE TIMBER BARONS WOULD BID ON.

THE BLADE RUINER AND LEILA HIT THE ROAD FOR THE GREAT SOUTHWEST. THEY HAD HEARD OF NEW DAMS, URANIUM MINES IN THE GRAND CANYON, AERIAL GUNNING OF COYOTES AND A HOST OF OTHER OBSCENITIES!

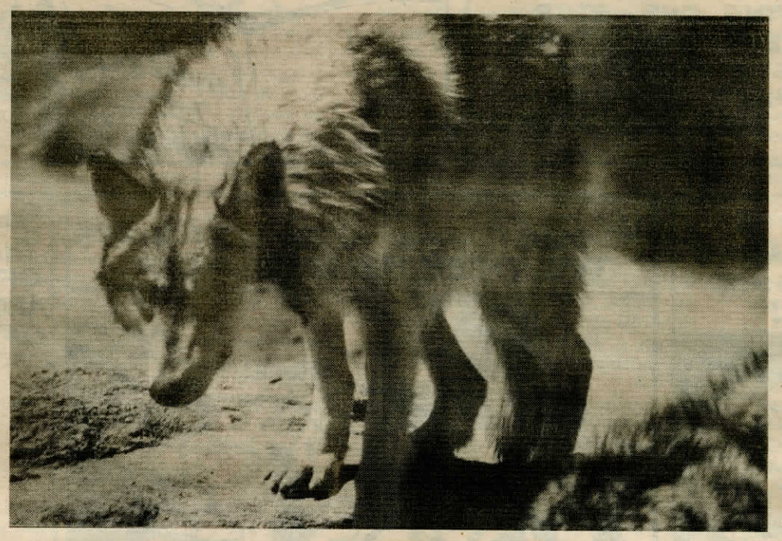
ECO-RAIDERS are a LOST ART



WOLVES AND MOOSE IN ALASKA

Time to Think like a Mountain

by George Wuerthner



In the 1940's Aldo Leopold wrote an essay titled "Thinking Like a Mountain." In it he related how his view of wolves changed after killing one in the Southwest during his youth. Leopold wrote: *We reached the old wolf in time to watch a fierce green fire dying in her eyes. I realized then, and have known ever since, that there was something new to me in those eyes — somthing known only to her and to the mountain. I was young then, and full of trigger-itch; I thought that because fewer wolves meant more deer, that no wolves would mean hunters' paradise. But after seeing the green fire die, I sensed that neither the wolf nor the mountain agreed with such a view . . . . I now suspect that just as a deer herd lives in mortal fear of its wolves, so does a mountain live in mortal fear of its deer. And perhaps with better cause, for while a buck pulled down by wolves can be replaced in two or three years, a range pulled down by too many deer may fail of replacement in as many decades.*

Leopold realized then what too few people, even biologists of today, fail to appreciate: the best management policy is no management unless previous human intervention has so disrupted the natural cycles that we are forced to manage in order to save a species.

In Alaska, the Fish and Game Department has not yet learned to think like a mountain. They are engaged in a massive wolf reduction program ostensibly to save a declining moose population. What is not considered is the full implications of this reduction. The Fish and Game has failed to think through the consequences of its actions. Like the youthful Leopold, they believe that fewer wolves will mean more moose. They are correct in a limited sort of way. But one must ask the question: if wolves can delay the recovery of moose populations for long periods of time, then what ecological purpose does this fulfill?

To appreciate the wolf situation, some background on the Alaska wolf issue is necessary: When the first white people came into what is now called Interior Alaska, they found a sparsely peopled land. Most of Alaska's natives lived on the coast where fish, sea mammals and other resources were abundant. In the interior, game was generally scarce. The land could only support small groups of Indians who lived a semi-nomadic existence concentrated along the major rivers where salmon could be caught. The occasional moose or caribou only supplemented their livelihood, but seldom was the mainstay. The Indians had to move frequently as local game populations increased or declined in direct reaction to the availability of browse. The amount of browse was controlled by wildfire. Moose, for example, eat early successional plant species that colonize burned over regions. After a number of years, when the plants matured and grew out of reach of the animals, the moose population either declined or went locally extinct.

The coming of white people changed the face of Interior Alaska. During the late 1800's gold was discovered in many of the region's rivers and streams. The last major gold rushes occurred just after the turn of the century. These gold miners cut down the forests to build cabins, heat homes, drive the steam operated dredges and paddle wheelers, and even to mine the gold itself. Much of Interior Alaska is underlain by permafrost. The miners melted the frozen ground with fires, then shoveled away the softer gravels to be washed by the same means they used to get the placer deposits out of rivers.

As the forests disappeared, so did the large game mammals. Market hunters supplied the miners year-round with fresh meat. In many areas, big game was practically eliminated. Large portions of Alaska became biological deserts.

By the 1930s much of this had changed. Gold mining had waned, since most of the easily recoverable deposits had been worked. Fish and Game laws stopped the excessive killing of game by market hunters. And the denuded forests made a remarkable recovery. Early successional species like aspen and birch dominated the landscape. Moose browsed these early successional species and flourished. While the moose population was increasing, wolf populations were declining due to bounty hunting, poisoning, and trapping. With few predators, the moose population took off. By the 1950's and 60's moose were at an all time high. Even in the pristine times before the coming of the white people, there were never so many moose in Alaska. The hunters of the state came to think of this population aberration as the norm.

Then in the late 60's and early 70's changes began to occur. First, the early successional stages of the forest were reverting back to climax spruce forest leaving the moose with less food to eat. Of the browse left, the quality declined. The moose population began to suffer. Fewer twins were born. More animals starved in winter. Overall fitness declined.

Attitudes towards the wolf changed during this period also. The wolf was no longer considered the big bad villian. Fish and Game persuaded the legislature to eliminate the bounty in 1968. Aerial hunting of the wolf was discontinued in 1972. The wolf responded quickly. It found the moose vulnerable. And there were still a lot of moose. The wolf population took off.

By the late 70's, Fish and Game in Alaska was concerned. Moose populations throughout the state were declining. Something had to be done. At first, it was suspected that fire suppression might be the culprit. After all, beginning in the 1940's the Bureau of Land Management had begun an effective campaign to eliminate all fires from the landscape. Fires were placed into the same category as wolves — something bad, something to be managed, and if at all possible eliminated. By the 70's it became increasingly apparent to researchers that the natural ecosystem of Alaska was dependent upon wildfires for nutrient cycling and that the forests had evolved to live with fire. Not only the forests need fire, but some animals like the moose need periodic fires to stimulate the growth of plant species favored by it.

Fish and Game biologists convinced the BLM to let some fires burn. In selected areas fires were even purposely set. These "controlled burns" were designed to increase the available moose browse species. It was hoped that the failing moose herds might recover if sufficient food could be created. The biologists did their burns. They anticipated a moose boom. None materialized. They went back into the field and ran transects in moose habitat. Plenty of food. Next they checked birth rates. These were high. Finally, they looked at the wolf.

In one part of Game Management Unit 13 south of the Alaska Range, all wolves from an 8000 square kilometer area were shot. Then the survival of young moose from within this area was compared to a control area outside of the study area. As expected the moose from within the wolfless area had a dramatic leap in survival rates. The population took an immediate turn upward. Fish and Game became convinced that if huntable populations of moose were to be maintained, then wolf control was necessary. Aerial hunting was reinstituted. To increase the efficiency of the hunting, wolves were trapped. Radio collars were placed on the captives, which were then released to join the pack again. Gunners were lead to the pack by the radio signals and the entire group was shot. In some parts of Alaska the goal was to eliminate 80% of the wolf population. Fish and Game did not set out to exterminate wolves, but it knew how many living wolves it wanted and it was a lot less than existed out on the tundra and forests.

In early 1985 the Federal Communications Commission ruled that radio collars used to track wolves for the purpose of killing them violated the permit. Fish and Game temporarily halted the hunts to reevaluate the situation. In March, 1985, the Alaska Fish and Game Commission voted to countinue the aerial hunts without the use of collars. Wolves in Alaska will be killed until their numbers reach the level desired by Fish and Game.

Throughout this entire process, Fish and Game has not considered what is good for the land. All they are concerned about, although they claim differently, is the production of animals so hunters can shoot them and some people can view them. Ultimately, they claim there will be more moose and as a result of increased prey base, more wolves. They are probably correct. But they forget the plant communities. Back to my original question. If wolves can delay the recovery of moose populations for a long time, what ecological importance could this have?

I believe future research will show that the moose, the wolf, the caribou, and most northern species have highly cyclic populations. This cyclic nature has been demonstrated for smaller mammals like hares and lemming. The only reason it has not been teased out for the larger mammals is a lack of time. We simply have not studied these animals long enough to see these cycles. The amplitudes between the highs and lows may be spread over 50 or 60 years instead of the ten or so years typical of smaller mammals like the hare. The periods of low moose numbers give plant communities a rest from heavy browsing. Without this rest, the plants that moose depend upon may be eliminated from the region. For example, aspen will resprout after a fire, but if browsing pressure is heavy, then the new saplings will be eliminated. The wolf keeps moose populations low for many years until the plant communities can recover. Eventually a point comes where so few moose and other game remain in a region that the wolf's prey base is eroded. The wolf becomes locally extinct. They either starve or wander to new areas where the moose population is on the upswing. In any case, moose are now relieved of wolf predation pressure. They begin a rapid upward swing. Eventually wolves recover or reinvade the region. Their own population begins to grow. Wolves probably do not limit prey populations at the high end of the cycle. As long as sufficient food supplies are available, moose can outproduce the wolf. They can easily balance out the losses. The moose begins a decline because it eventually overbrowses its range — just as cattle can overgraze a pasture. But once the downward slide begins, the wolf speeds the process and delays the recovery of moose for years. So predation is more important when moose are trying to recover.

The important thing is the long amplitude of these cycles and the fact that wildlife over vast areas can go through periodic ups and downs — even local extinctions. But while one drainage or region may be experiencing a decline, another area will be on the up-

Photos by George Wuerthner

WILDERNESS: A Bioregional Approach

By George Wuerthner

The present trend to designate Wilderness Areas on a state by state basis is inadequate and will ultimately fail to protect a good percentage of the nation's remaining wildlands. For the most part, the Congressional delegations of the western US, where most potential Wilderness and public lands exist, are anti-wilderness. Leaving them the decision as to which lands are suitable for Wilderness protection is analogous to leaving the fox to guard the chickens. The results of this process are Wilderness bills which only designate lands having little commercial development potential. The small acreage included as Wilderness Areas usually precludes the possibility of protecting whole ecosystems. In considering Wilderness designation, decision-makers subordinate ecological values to recreational value, which centers wilderness preservation on present human use, rather than on the long term value as a natural system.

As a result of this short-sighted Wilderness designation policy, most Wilderness proposals are small, and sacrifice wilderness lands to accomodate special interests. The recently passed Arizona Wilderness Bill is a good example. Quite a number of the newly created Wilderness Areas run from canyon rim to canyon rim, excluding any flat land which might be grazed or logged. In case after case, large chunks of roadless lands were excluded from designated Wilderness so as to not inconvenience a single rancher or other commercial users of the land.

Too many state and national conservation groups have bought into this state by state wilderness destruction process. What is needed instead is a bioregional approach to wilderness protection. There ought to be a Northern Rockies Wilderness bill to protect all the remaining roadless lands in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming. A Colorado Plateau Wilderness bill would safeguard the red rock country of Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico. A Great Basin Wilderness bill could address areas in Nevada, eastern Oregon, southern Idaho and western Utah. And so on.

In each case the proposed Wilderness bills would strive to protect entire ecosystems, entire drainages of rivers, regional geological formations. To do an adequate job of ecosystem protection some roads must be closed. Some previously developed areas will be included and allowed to reclaim their pristine qualities.

As an example, the closure of the Wise River dirt road which now separates the East Pioneer roadless area and West Pioneer roadless area in Montana would create a single unit of more than 400,000 acres — probably the lower limit necessary to preserve any semblance of a functioning wilderness ecosystem. The closure of the Burr Trail in southern Utah could unite slickrock canyon country north and south of this road into one huge Wilderness, as proposed in a recent *EF!* article by Dave Foreman.

A bioregional approach with some road closures would result in a number of improvements in our efforts to protect wild, functioning ecosystems. First, it takes the designation of wildlands out of the hands of local political development interests. Crossing state lines, a bioregional approach promotes the idea of national interest lands.

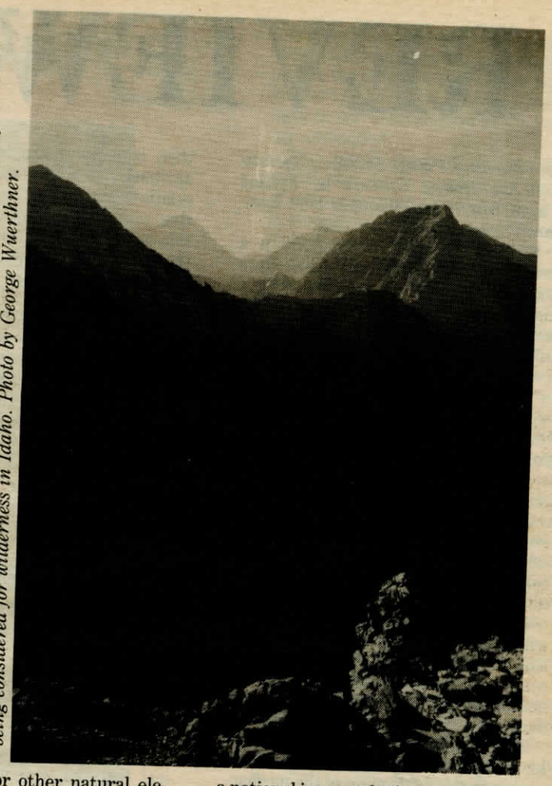
Secondly, there is a concept in biology called Bergmann's Rule, which states that animals living in colder climates will tend to have a larger body size than members of the same species living in warmer areas. A large body gives an animal a more efficient surface to volume ratio, hence it will lose heat to the environment slower than a smaller animal. Similarly, a roadless area with a large volume in relation to small boundary area can more effectively protect wilderness. By creating one large roadless area out of two or more smaller units, we significantly increase its ability to ward off the influence of human development. Wide ranging wildlife species will be given increased protection from human contacts.

Finally, larger areas give greater leeway for ecological change to occur without a negative impact on ecosystem integrity. Many of our present efforts to preserve wildlife or other natural elements assume the status quo found today will be maintained into the future. The good elk winter range of today may not be so good in a hundred years, as ecological succession occurs. We need to preserve not only present populations of animals and plants, but the ecological options and opportunities of the future. Too often these are ignored since they can not be predicted. Protection of large roadless areas preserves these options.

Wilderness preservation for the last remaining large wild lands in the US should be national priorities — not state decisions. Like the Alaska Lands Bill, a Wilderness bill for the Northern Rockies or the Colorado Plateau should be a national issue and a focus of all conservation groups.

We must make our proposals ecologically realistic — at least as a starting point — rather than beginning with small politically realistic bills as is common among state conservation groups. This means designation of at least 20 million acres of new Wilderness in the Northern Rockies. It means proposing a Wilderness bill for the Colorado Plateau in excess of 20 million acres. It means being realistic about the ecological needs of wildlife and the spirit of wilderness.

George Wuerthner is an experienced wilderness activist living in Montana.



View from Mt. Borah down the spine of the Lost River Range — one of many areas now being considered for wilderness in Idaho. Photo by George Wuerthner.

surge. Thus we will find many areas with no wolves at all or only small groups of wanderers with no breeding pairs. The area may have enough prey to support one or two itinerate wolves, but not enough to support a breeding pack.

These cycles take many years. More than the lifetime of most research biologists, hunters or other observers of nature. We need to realize their existence is measured in decades. Leopold's dictum that we learn to think like a mountain — in the time frame of mountains — is important in so many ecological relationships. To speed up these cycles as Fish and Game proposes will throw out of balance an important ecological limiting factor. If we decide to manage wolves to benefit the recovery of moose, then we will have to manage the moose to benefit the plants. And then we will have to manage the plants and the fires. What you have is an impossible mess.

There is a balance of nature that exists out there — if we only have the eyes to se it . We just need to think like a mountain.

George Wuerthner is a student of forest ecology and a long-time wilderness activist. He writes regularly for this newspaper.

Montana Sellout

Over 5 million acres of roadless wildlife habitat in Montana are in imminent danger. The main culprit in this potential tragedy is US Senator John Melcher, a Democrat, and a man who hates wilderness. Melcher, who last year introduced a bill that would have released over 5 million acres of de-facto wilderness to the multiple abuse management of the Forest Service, is threatening to introduce similar legislation this winter. And because he has developed a powerful grassroots ally, the "Senator from Burlington-Northern" is likely to succeed in his anti-wilderness crusade. The Senator's unlikely ally is the Montana Wilderness Association (MWA).

MWA has a long history as an effective pro-wilderness voice in a state whose population is probably as supportive of wilderness protection as any in the nation. The Absaroka-Beartooth, Great Bear, and Scapegoat Wildernesses all attest to the past grassroots effectiveness of MWA. So do the "Metcalf Wilderness Study Areas," most of which by now would have been thoroughly trashed by the Freddies were it not for the late Senator Lee Metcalf and the effective support of MWA.

But times have changed. There are roughly 6.5 million acres of unprotected wilderness in Montana's National Forests. These areas include some of the most productive wildlife habitats in the temperate world. In Montana, grizzly bears still wander down from the Rockies to forage and hunt on the high plains. Elk herds, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, bald eagles, wolverines, lynx, cougars, and gray wolves still roam Montana's roadless areas in utter disregard of the political atrocity soon to befall them. Last year's Melcher plan, which Montana Earth First! played a key role in defeating, would have protected a mere 700,000 acres as Wilderness, while MWA is currently supporting a pitiful 2 million acre plan called "Alternative W" (the "W," I suppose, stands for WIMP!).

MWA still has some effective activists within its ranks. But its leadership has become a gutless and fragmented shell of its proven past. The flawed strategy of advocating puny Wilderness proposals (especially in a relatively pro-Wilderness state) in order to appear "moderate and reasonable" has once again reared its ugly head. Whom is MWA trying to appease? Melcher? He hates them anyway. Williams? Baucus? Marlinee (the Republican answer to Melcher)? Damn it, the average Montanan probably supports more Wilderness than the MWA! Had the wilderness sellout strategy been working, Melcher and company would not have introduced last year's horrible bill, nor would they reintroduce a similar measure this winter.

MWA has confined the parameters of Montana's wilderness controversy to the low end of the wilderness acreage spectrum. They have played directly into the hands of Melcher, who will likely announce cosmetic "improvements" in his miserable lilttle habitat destruction plan. The resulting bill will probably protect a million acres or so, thus approximately splitting the difference between Alternative W and timber industry desires. Melcher will look like a statesperson, securing a compromise "solution" between two widely differing factions. The bastard will rise from the political quagmire smelling like a rose, thanks largely to MWA, and over 5 million acres of roadless lands will be "released" to the Tree Nazis. This is the exact scenario which recently occurred in Wyoming (as well as other western states).

To prevent this scenario from occurring in Montana, Montana's wilderness leadership must drastically alter its strategy. The Montana Wilderness Association should immediately renounce Alternative W, and develop an ecologically sound Wilderness proposal of five or six million acres. This would be a courageous, controversial, and pragmatic course of action. It would in no way preclude individual activists from lobbying to lessen the impact of Melcher's impending disaster by adding key areas to his bill. Nor would a six million acre Wilderness proposal be an "all or nothing" stance. On the contrary, this would be a way to shift the controversy away from the low end of the acreage spectrum. "Kill the bill" must remain the battle cry of Montana conservationists. If Montana's wilderness supporters organized and united around a five or six million acre proposal, Melcher might not be able to hold his ground. Furthermore, a revamped Alternative W might throw enough additional controversy into the issue to kill the bill. In any event, it is extremely important that MWA immediately define the new parameters of the controversy by advocating five or six million acres of Wilderness (thus putting Melcher and the loggers on the defensive), and begin to organize and educate so that we have a chance in the future to protect most of the remainder of Montana's wild country.

Even if it passes, a Melcher bill must not become the final word for Montana's National Forest Wilderness, and Earth First! must not be the only group in Montana advocating the protection of six million acres. Come on, MWA, wake up!

THE GRIZZLY DEN

by Howie Wolke

REVIEWS

***The Turning Point: Science, Society and the Rising Culture* by Fritjof Capra; Simon and Schuster 1982, Bantam Paperback Edition 1983.**

Fritzjof Capra's *Turning Point* is a rewarding book largely because Capra occupies the rare position of being a highly trained scientist who is nevertheless quick to criticize the current scientific establishment, and able to do so in a very readable way. Capra is a physicist of a counter-cultural, holistic, and ecological integration. His book is a very good interdisciplinary study of the problems of our time in a multi-cultural framework leaning heavily on an organic view of nature in accordance with traditional sciences of China. Capra, even though he is a scientist, is on the side of the poets when he must choose between science and poetry. Yet he criticizes the kind of dualistic thinking which places science and poetry at odds with each other. Capra takes his book's title from the ancient Chinese oracular symbol for the discarding of or transformation of the old, following a time of decay, and the introduction of the new.

This need for a new paradigm remains his theme throughout, with his emphasis on the jettisoning of the mechanical world view ushered in and symbolized by the French mathematician and philosopher Rene Descartes. The separation of matter and mind which Descartes stood for is to be replaced by a unity of reason and intuition in a holistic world view. The achievement of this framework goes along with the decline of the fossil fuel age, the decline of patriarchy, and a cultural rebirth through harmony with the organic cycles of history and nature. In these cycles, rise and fall are the natural movement of the Yin and the Yang — the apparent opposites or complementary principles that turn into each other at their extremes of rhythmic movement.

The unity of harmonic interplay between things that appear to be in conflict can be seen in the basic patterns of natural structures, such as in mathematical physics today in which matter itself has two faces at the atomic level. Waves and atomic particles or "quanta" are two concepts which are only properly described as two parts of what is really a unity more subtle than the separate particles into which traditional science misleadingly divides things. Mathematical or physical connections are really influenced by the whole universe, in which causes may be indefinitely far away from each other. In other words, post-Classical physics shows that ecologists have been right in claiming that all things are interconnected. The stability of the vibrating atomic world, says Capra, derives (like ecology) from a proper balance of Yin and Yang. Furthermore, as the physicist David Bohm says, the whole world can be seen folded up in each one of its parts. This atomic ecosystem idea has just begun to influence biology and medicine. Even psychology at this turning point is moving away from mechanical models as the study of consciousness is being reborn, despite obstacles to holism presented by society's addiction to hard technology.

Soft economics and technologies of decentralized grass-roots ecology-modeled systems are beginning to raise their banners amidst big industry, big agribusiness, and big medicine. Organic relations are primarily symbiotic, creative, and seek newness. At the peak of this newness Capra sees the symbol of the pure conscousness of ultimate reality, the stuff of ecological systems in a mystical sense, beyond science but not unrelated to it. All of the sciences which study this vibrant dance of birth, death, and self-renewal move toward their goal of the achievement of the best possible adaptation to life in the self-healing of our world. "After a time of decay comes the Turning Point."

Reviewed by Peter Bralver, a longtime environmentalist and mathematician living in California.

***Nuclear Battlefields: Global Links in the Arms Race* by William M. Arkin and Richard W. Fieldhouse; Ballinger, 1985.**

Nuclear Battlefields is a disturbing book for environmentalists. In it Arkin and Fieldhouse demonstrate that in terms of knowledge and control of physical features, the world today is the military's, and that if we do not want this situation to continue and to worsen, we have to act.

The authors' topic is what they call "the nuclear infrastructure." By this they mean the military nuclear systems of the five powers that admit to having nuclear weapons: US, United Kingom, France, China, and the Soviet Union. The infrastructure consists not only of arsenals and military bases but also of complexes for developing, testing, and producing nuclear materials, warheads, and weapons systems; surveillance and early warning networks; and communications and command structures. It includes supposedly civilian facilities — 95% of the communications system that would support a US nuclear strike is provided by commercial carriers — and it stretches through the oceans, earth, atmosphere, and space.

Arkins and Fieldhouse set out the contents of the infrastructure in devastating detail. In their text they discuss the character and the interrelationship of the various components. In five appendices, one for each of the five nations, they identify facilities. These useful appendices show, for example, that California has the largest number of nuclear locations, 80, and the fourth largest number of warheads, 1437. Arizona has 15 sites, among them the impressive "Yuma Proving Ground: . . . one of the largest uninhabited areas in the US, increasingly important in Army equipment testing in the desert environment, range is 1400 square miles, used for test firing of nuclear artillery projectiles." The overseas area with the largest number of US facilities and warheads is West Germany; but the list of host nations and territories begins with Antigua and Ascension Island and ends with the Yap Islands in Micronesia.

In order to improve their military systems, the armed forces are learning all they can about the planet's physical features. In terms of raw facts, "no one knows the earth better than the military" (p. 18). Knowledge of topography is crucial for missile guidance — the US Defense Mapping Agency has already "digitized," that is electronically mapped, one-third of Earth's surface. Accurate weather forecasting is important for planning missile and bombing flights and for predicting fallout patterns — the military has its own system for collecting data on weather. Planners are intensely concerned with the effect of radiation on military equipment and operations, though not with its effect on ecosystems.

The infrastructure has an existence of its own, apart from human and environmental considerations. Military systems are in constant flux with one feeding off the actions of another. Updating of targets is an almost daily process. Sooner or later, probably on the ocean, a commander is likely to fire tactical nuclear weapons. The infrastructure which wires nations together will insure that the conflict becomes global.

The only way to prevent a nuclear war, Arkins and Fieldhouse argue, is to dismantle the nuclear infrastructure. Cities and nations that consider themselves Nuclear Free Zones, because they have no missiles or nuclear reactors, do not understand the nuclear system. (However, establishing a so-called "Nuclear Free Zone" is a step in the right direction.) A global nuclear war could be fought with small bombs rather than with missiles "as long as the intelligence, targeting, basing, training, and communications infrastructure is in place around the world" (p. 150).

And here is where environmentalists come in. We are used to fighting battles involving the use of land and other natural resources. *Nuclear Battlefields* while showing that the military is currently misusing these resources, as well as threatening the continuation of life on Earth, indicates that by working in our traditional areas, we can make a contribution to preventing nuclear war.

The book is itself a tool for this purpose. Unfortunately, the text is difficult reading — in part due to the complexity of the infrastructure, but also because of insufficient editing. I suggest reading the introduction and the concluding chapter, and looking at the chapter "The Earth," and then using the book as a reference work. The appendices, maps, and tables furnish instant information on the facilities in any given location.

Understanding the contents of the book may put some current battles in a new light. Take, for example, the plan for an observatory on top of Mt. Graham in the Coronado National Forest of southern Arizona. It is being constructed by a university, but, to a reader of *Nuclear Battlefields*, the idea that the observatory will nevertheless furnish information to assist the military is not far-fetched. The peace movement needs to be made aware of the environmental and military implications of such facilities. "There is a pervasive lack of understanding — even within the military — of the pervasiveness of the arms race" (p. 145). Environmentalists can help to remedy that lack.

Reviewed by M. Bird

***Declaration of a Heretic* by Jeremy Rifkin; Routledge & Kegan Paul; 1985; 140pp.; $19.95 cloth, $7.95 paper.**

Jeremy Rifkin is a rebel in the scientific community, and *Declaration of a Heretic* is his well-written essay denouncing the mainstream scientific establishment. In this book, Rifkin challenges the two most significant scientific developments of the 20th century — nuclear power (weapons and plants) and genetic engineering. Rifkin effectively argues that the current unquestioning acceptance of nuclear and genetic technologies could spell doom for Earth.

The most intriguing part of Rifkin's book is his discussion of genetic manipulation. Presently, Rifkin is the leading opponent of research and technologies which tamper with genetic integrity of organisms. We owe Rifkin much appreciation in his fight against genetic engineering, for he is one of the few strong opponents of genetic technologies. Rifkin cites several examples of artificially created organisms which geneticists have developed or could develop and which may soon be widely used in the environment if Rifkin does not succeed in legislatively blocking their use. One organism is a bacteria which will be used on crops to prevent frost from killing them. This bacteria could have disastrous effects on climate. Another is an enzyme which would destroy lignin — a substance which gives wood rigidity — in order to rapidly biodegrade waste wood. Imagine if this enzyme escaped into a National Forest. We might then see millions of acres of wilted trees. A third example is the organism which eats oil, and thus could be used to clean oil spills. This oranism almost makes one wonder if genetic engineering might not be all bad. How nice it could be for an organism to escape and devour all our fossil fuel supplies!

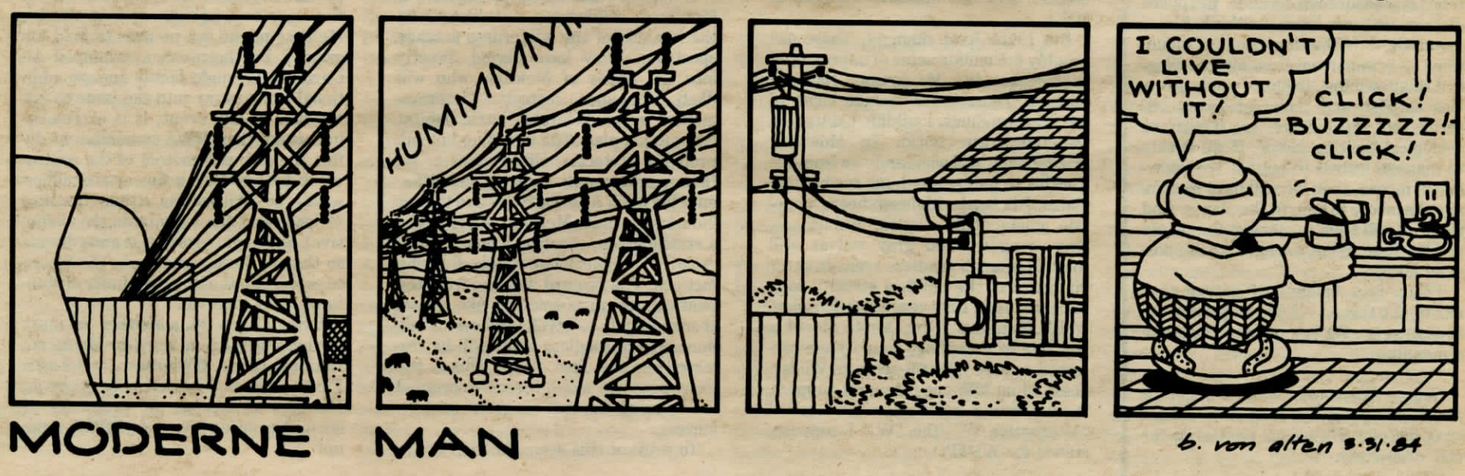
Rifkin concludes his book — as an increasing number of scientists and writers are doing — by insisting that Earth's survival depends upon a major shift in human consciousness and a radical reform of our activities. We are again reminded of the need to subvert the dominant paradigm.

Reviewed by Australopithecus.

***The Death of Nature: Women, Ecology and the Scientific Revolution* by Carolyn Merchant; Harper and Row; San Francisco; 1980; 348 pp.; $8.95.**

Carolyn Merchant is a historian of science who has done exceptional work in clarifying the social-philosophical change that occurred in the 15th, 16th, and 17th centuries that have allowed civilization of today to destroy Earth.

The destruction of the gatherer-hunter culture of the European tribes by the Roman Empire was still not completely accomplished by the Middle Ages. The consensus government, cooperative/communalism, and land-based subsistence economies of peasant cultures, continued to provide a base for resistance against the patriarchs of empire all through the Middle Ages. Surges of resistance were sometimes strong enough that on occasion cities were seized, goods redistributed, and mutual sharing instituted in a spiritual/communalist revolution. By the Renaissance, the ancient communalist paradigm had lost ground but continued to surface until the 1800s. Merchant shows vividly how the perspective inherited from the Pleistocene — that the world is an organism with a soul — clung tenaciously in the sense of the people as it was assaulted by the male hierarchs of science, theology, and industry who were organizing a new



world of wealth and military power.

Merchant states that, "The Renaissance view of nature and society was based on the organic analogy between the human body, or microcosm, and the larger world, or macrocosm." She also says that, "Not only did the image of nature as a nurturing mother contain ethical implications, but the organic framework itself, as a conceptual system, also carried with it an associated value system." But, as the power of the hierarchs of science and industry developed, "The animistic concept of nature as a divine, self-active organism came to be associated with atheistical and radical libertarian ideas. Social chaos, peasant uprisings, and rebellions could be fed by the assumption that individuals could understand the nature of the world for themselves and could manipulate its spirits by magic."

As destruction threatened the organic holistic world view, the holistic thinkers continued valiantly. In the 17th century, Tommaso Campanella penned *City of the Sun*, a communalist/spiritual/organic, utopian tract; and Johann Valentin Andrea wrote the utopian *Christianopolis*. The social movements of the Familists, the Diggers, the Ranters, Levelers and Quakers resisted the assault. In philosophical realms Paracelsus led the resistance. The school of thought identified with Paracelsus is now called Vitalism.

Paracelsus' line of thought, Merchant says, "Designates the unity of matter and spirit as a self-active entity in which the spiritual kernel is considered the real substance and the material 'cover' a mere phenomenon." In this line of thought also stand Jean Baptiste Van Helmont, his son Francis Mercury Van Helmont and Anne Conway.

Also opposing the hierarchs, whose body of thought would become known as the "mechanist/reductionist" school, were the alchemists, the Rosicrucians, Masons and other spiritual societies.

As Karl Polanyi, in *The Great Transformation*, shows how the industrial elite forced the destruction of peasant subsistence culture and created an urban labor market; Merchant brilliantly shows the change in the philosophical realm. She shows how the philosophical perspective of nature changed from Mother-nurturer to subordinant female producer (worker) and reproducer (of more producers). She shows also the connection between the raping and killing of "witches" and the mechanist assault upon both women and nature.

Francis Bacon carried the flag for the materialist forces. He created the basis of the predominating present day materialist science (though there is still a small minority of vitalist scientists). The mechanistic world view was further clarified and reinforced by the mathematician and philosopher Rene Descartes.

The Mechanists, led by Bacon and Descartes, see the world as an intricate machine, a giant clock. Where earlier theologians saw God as immanent in nature (which would make one pause before manipulating nature), compliant industrial theologians saw God as transcendent, a director, sitting removed from the world, and telling humans that nature was for their use and dominion.

The Mechanists created the reductionist view that the world can be understood by reducing it to increasingly smaller parts and studying them. The whole is no more than the sum of its parts, they would say.

Merchant shows the Mechanists as hand in glove with hierarchy. "In France," she says, "The rise of the mechanical world view was coincident with a general tendency toward central government controls and the concentration of power in the hands of the royal ministers. The rationalization of administration and the natural order was occurring simultaneously." As with the science of today, order and power was the thrust of the early Mechanists. The Mechanists assumed the world to be made up of particles and the laws of the behavior of these particles to be discoverable in their motion (mass, acceleration, inertia, etc.). Leibniz and Newton, with their new theories in math and physics, strengthened the Mechanist world view. As the power of patriarchical and materialist culture solidified around science and industry, the basic symbolic images clarified — male hierarchical power over the compliant and static female "order of nature." There was an emphasis on power and order in society and on the subjugation of women and nature. As Merchant says, the world view of the Mechanists — of structure, stability, the passivity of matter (and females), has won out over Vitalist concepts of organic flux, change, becoming and process and has become the common sense world view of 20th century civilized people.

While Merchant treats the history of science, other feminist authors examine the subjugation and persecution of nature and women from other perspectives. *Women's Creation: Sexual Evolution and the Shaping of Society*, examines the emergence of non-egalitarian culture since Sumer and since the death of the Goddesses. Susan Griffin has written the intuitive and powerful *Woman and Nature: The Roaring Inside Her*. An essential history is *Woman and Madness*, by Phylis Chesler, which gives one the immediate sense of how these values translate into real effects on real people who are in human social-institutional environments, dominated by ideologies of male superiority. Mary Daly's *Gyn/Ecology: The Metaethics of Radical Feminism* will cure your naivete. One learns from her, for example, that J. Marion Sims, who is considered the "father of Gynecology" by industrial medicine, developed his knowledge of female anatomy by cruel and sadistic surgery on black, female slaves.

These incisive studies together form a formidable body of thought, a critique, that calls into question the fundamental bases of the institutions of expansionist, male dominated, hierarchical systems of social-ecological power.

Reviewed by Wm. H. Koethke

***The American Hunting Myth* by Ron Baker, $10.95 plus $1.25 postage, Vantage Press Inc., 516 W. 34th St., N.Y., NY 10001, 287 pages.**

In an era when the "scientific management" of natural resources has come under fire from a wide range of environmentalists, only wildlife management has been spared intense scrutiny and analysis. With the publication of Ron Baker's *The American Hunting Myth*, this period of neglect is coming to an end.

In the past, most writings critical of sport hunting and management practices have relied on strident emotional condemnations or repetition of gory tales. Baker sets a new standard with his largely empirical approach, relying on the written and spoken words of the wildlife agencies to build his case. Perhaps most significant is his well documented premise that wildlife management is as much a commercial enterprise as any other form of natural resource development, a state of affairs largely overlooked by environmentalists who are quick to criticize loggers, miners, ranchers and others who exploit wild lands. In fact, the decision making bureaucracy is primarily supported by the system's beneficiaries, with a direct correlation between the size of a wildlife department's budget and the number and cost of hunting licenses. Imagine the indignation if the US Forest Service had to rely on timber sale revenues to pay its employees! To say that there is a potential for conflicting interests would be quite an understatement.

Author Ron Baker has been long active in the defense of wild lands in Vermont, Massachusetts and New York, working to curtail abuses by off-road-vehicles, snowmobilers, and highway and pipeline builders. Perhaps it is this background that has tempered his view of wildlife, for he has largely avoided the romanticized view of the natural world. For example, he does not hesitate to point out that wildlife populations are largely cyclical, their fluctuations being a component, rather than a contradiction, to the much abused "balance of nature." And yet, in his view these natural variations in populations are a threat to the wildlife agencies who require the steady income from stable numbers of hunting licences sold every year. This economic dependence on large "harvests" is what compels wildlife managers to manipulate habitat and decimate predators to produce large numbers of huntable species. A wildlife official in New York is quoted as saying that the success of their efforts to increase deer populations is evidenced by a high level of "deer-car collisions" and destruction of agricultural crops! In a near-perfect Catch 22, these deliberate overpopulations tend to increase support of hunting even among non-hunters (especially the victimized farmers who control hunting on large expanses of rural acreage). Michigan's Department of Natural Resources succeeded in boosting that state's deer population from 200,000 to over one million. Not surprisingly, the argument that sport hunting prevents winter starvation has been largely abandoned by the professional management community.

Baker contends that the favoritism shown a handful of "game" species is responsible for unwarranted manipulation of wild lands, such as clearcutting to boost deer numbers. His philosophy is neatly summed up in one sentence: "I can not emphasize too strongly the importance of maintaining natural ecosystems whenever and wherever possible." To this end, his proposals for reform include boadening the base of public funding for wildlife programs, reintroduction of large predators to former range, and wilderness preservation.

Though his writing style is basic and generally clear throughout, the first fifty pages of this volume are its weakest point, as Baker attempts to put wildlife management into a political and historical perspective. Most of the remaining pages systematically attack the wide range of arguments used in defense of contemporary hunting practices, and it is here that the strongest points are made. The factual material is well organized and most conclusions thoroughly supported.

Still, Baker's book is not without weak points. Among the factual errors is a failure to mention the major role of the livestock industry in the declilne of large predators. In addition, Baker repeats the idealized view that predators

continued on pg 27

Schmookler Replies to Australopithecus

By Andrew Bard Schmookler

I was delighted that a review of my book, *The Parable of the Tribes: The Problem of Power in Social Evolution*, appeared in *Earth First!*. For much of the passion that inspired the writing of my book is the same as the passion that is blazoned in your pages.

I was pleased also that your reviewer, Australopithecus, evidently from a species akin to my own, the mis-named *Homo sapiens*, thought as highly as he did of *The Parable of the Tribes*. However, there are a few statements in the review that would give your readers an inaccurate understanding of the views I present in my book. I'd like here to correct such misunderstandings.

The review says that I find capitalism basically decent. In fact, while I do find many of the usual left-wing criticisms of the market economy misguided, my purpose in the part of Chapter 7 entitled "The Market as a Power System" was to spell out the strongest legitimate critique possible of the workings of the capitalist economy. My conclusion with respect to the market exemplifies my thesis throughout the book: that the market, like other systems ruled by power, cannot be trusted to rule our destiny wisely or humanely. The market attends well only to certain values, while ignoring others — including most emphatically the panoply of values connected with the natural world. The most that can be said for the market is that, properly limited by political choices reflecting other values, it can be a useful tool.

Nor was I praising our species when I wrote that "there is something special about the human animal." By special I meant unique — as one might also say that the genocide committed by the Nazis was unique. Indeed, I introduce the book with the idea that this book is intended to help remove our remaining prideful illusions about ourselves as a species.

The reviewer suggests that biologists would take issue with my emphasis on competition as the driving force in evolution. He would be right if that were how I characterize biological evolution. But it is not. The whole purpose of Chapter 6, "Systems of Nature and of Civilization," is to delineate the various ways that the evolution of civilization represents a destructive departure from the evolutionary processes that characterized the previous, biological evolution of living systems. I stress that the competition evident in biological nature forms part of a fundamentally synergistic and harmonious order that protects the viability of all the components of the system. Whereas the struggle for power among civilized societies takes place outside the regulation of any life-serving order.

When creatures begin to invent their own way of life, it might appear that their societies would be free to develop in any way the creatures want. But what is freedom for a single society is anarchy in an interacting system of those societies. Anarchy, which Hobbes regarded as the state of nature, is indeed a state of unnature — for it had never before existed in the history of life. This is the circumstance from which arise the struggle for power and the inevitable spread of the ways of power that my book describes.

Finally, I'd like to respond to the reviewer's disappointment that I do not have more to say about how to escape our plight. Of the various critiques I have encountered since the book was published a year and a half ago, this has been the most frequent and the most distressing to me.

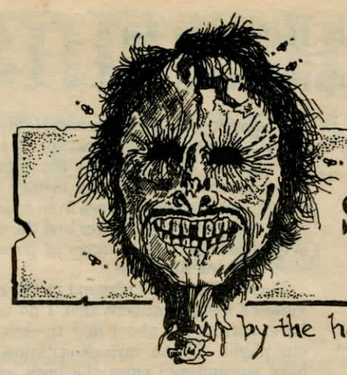
The Parable of the Tribes shows that the essence of our problem lies in the overarching anarchy within which human action takes place. So long as that anarchy persists, the destructive rule of power will persist. The general nature of the solution is clear: we must create a life-serving order that both allows and requires us to act consistently with the needs of human beings and of other living things. If we are to survive for much longer, our present anarchy — a recent development of only some 10,000 years — must be made but a brief interval between two systems that embody wholeness: the pure order of nature from which we emerged, but to which we cannot return; and another framework of human devising to guide and limit human activity.

It is true that these general notions, even if accepted, do not offer detailed guidance on how to get there. Still less do they promise a quick solution to the destruction that plagues us. But that, unfortunately, is the human condition. We will not reach the promised land any time soon; and we are required to grope our way toward it without a map. This is frightening, demanding of us resources of courage and faith. What distresses me is the thought that those who fault a book that diagnoses 10,000 years of destructiveness for not offering a "solution," are shrinking from facing the true nature of our predicament and of what escaping from it demands of us.

I, for one, believe we can make it. I believe that if the readers of *Earth First!* were to see Earth 1000 years from now, they would weep with joy and relief at what they found.

*Andrew Bard Schmookler is the author of **Parable of the Tribes** and a commentator for **All Things Considered** on National Public Radio.*

REVIEWERS REPLY: Most of my doubts about Schmookler's book have now been dispelled. This is such an excellent response to my misguided review that I'm almost glad I did his book a disservice. However, some of us will be bothered by his negative use of the term "anarchy." Anarchism as advocated by such thinkers as Murray Bookchin seems a very positive and ecological goal toward which society should, perhaps, move. What do you think of Bookchin's advocacy of anarchism, Mr. Schmookler?



Sleaze from the Slickrock

by the head of Joaquin.

First, I would like to say how insulted I am by the alleged portrait of myself which now accompanies this column. It fails to capture the subtle nuances of my personality which exude from every pore of my head. Where is that devilish charm? That devil-may-care ambience? And where is the twinkle in my glass eye!? He has drawn me empty sockets! It is not a pretty sight.

I have been absent from these pages and I do not even know where I have been except that I have been absent. Were I to be Oscar I could say I was absent-minded but I am not so I cannot . . . say that.

So what can I say? Well, I can say that things are a mess down here. Never in my memory has this place called Southern Utah been under such vicious attack from so many directions. I am always angry. I would like to say I am pissed off, but I can't because I can't (I only have a head). Actually this is all too tragic to apply any dopey humor. Let me tell you what is happening:

Nuke Dump Rises from the Grave

It is hard to believe, but it is true. After being dropped from its prime victim list, the Department of Energy (DOE) has decided to give Canyonlands "another chance." When the top three sites for the dump were being determined, certain characteristics — geologic, socio-economic, environmental, etc. — were considered and weighted based on their importance. When the DOE announced that the Davis Canyon site was not among the top three, the agency submitted their determination to the National Academy of Sciences for review. Apparently, the esteemed scientists felt that socio-economic factors such as the fact that the dump would sit a mile or so from a National Park and turn Southeast Utah into a nightmare were not that important. They felt that the long-range geological factors were more important. If the DOE accepts NAS recommendations, the Davis Canyon site will be bumped to number one or two and the fight starts all over again.

Burr Trail Boondoggle Debacle

Good God, I'm sick of this. Of all the asinine, stupid, greedy, moronic proposals this one may rile me the most. The bastards have managed to spend a few million dollars paving the Boulder Mountain Road; this road provides smooth as silk travel for all the slobs who want to frantically dart from Lake Bowell to Capitol Reef to Bryce Canyon in two hours and twenty-two minutes. Paving of the Burr Trail has been heroically opposed by Kincaid and Weed and the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance. Senator Jake The Snake Garn however, has slipped an eight million dollar ammendment to an appropriations bill to pave it and those lowlife creeps from Creamer & Noble Engineering consultants are staking the right-of-way at this very moment. One man, one very decent congressman from Illinois has opposed and stopped the Burr Boondoggle once before. He needs your voices to stop it again. I strongly urge you to write to the Hon. Sidney Yates, US House of Representatives, Room B-308, 2234 Rayburn Bld., Washington, DC 20515.

I also implore you to support those SUWA guys with your hard earned dollars. Weed and Kincaid are a couple of self-righteous royal pains in the opposition's ass and that's why I love them so. They have a new colleague named Del Smith; she claims to be "sweet and passive" but I'm suspicious — she probably can chew nails and spit fire. Anyway write to SUWA, c/o Box 348, Escalante, UT 84726. And don't write inflammatory crap on the envelope. Even the postmaster over there is probably a dangerous, fascist, psychopath. Beware. Remember, the Burr Trail is not only a sacrilege — it's a waste of money (impress them with your fiscal conservatism).

Calvin Black's Wheatfield

Speaking of fiscal conservatives and self-righteous pains in the butt, let me tell you a new story of Calvin Black, the Little Kingfish of San Juan County, Bishop Love, etc. As by now you all know, Calvin is the richest man in San Juan County and supports every thinkable and unthinkable proposal to exploit and destroy the natural beauty of Southern Utah. But some people are never satisfied. Their greed is insatiable. And so it is with ol' Calvin. You see, there's a little canyon that State Highway 95 near Blanding crosses. The road has to snake and twist a little; nothing serious . . . . It drops into the canyon, a little sagebrush meadow and climbs up the other side.

A sagebrush meadow. Until last year. One day I crossed Zeke's Hole and . . . what is happening? Instead of sage, a wheatfield; a two acre wheatfield. Well, guess who owns the two acre wheatfield? Answer: Calvin Black. And guess who plans to straighten the road in Zeke's Hole and buy the private property there? Answer: The Utah Department of Transportation. And which would cost more to buy, sagebrush (primitive, undeveloped, worthless) or a developed 2 acre wheatfield? Answer: What do you think?

The whole damn thing stinks of corruption and collusion between Calvin and the folks at DOT. Well, we're not going to let him get away with it. Yes, let's write another letter to: Hon. Norman Bangerter, Governor, State Capitol, Salt Lake City, UT. Tell the guv you don't appreciate cheap politicians abusing citizen's tax dollars. Let's stick Calvin in Zeke's Hole.

The Dave Foreman Controversy

Good grief, Foreman. What are you trying to do? Get me killed again? I've been through all that before. So I was in Milt's Stop & Eat and Burger Burner John and his beautiful but spunky assistant Bonnie assaulted me with the most recent issue of Moab's pitiful excuse for a newspaper, *The Times-Independent*. There, in headline type it said, "EF! Leader Calls Miners 'Brain-Damaged.'" Yes there it was: Dave "Mr. Tact" Foreman was quoted as saying that Moab would be a nicer place to live if only "the brain-damaged uranium miners" would leave town. Of course, I was shocked beyond belief. Some of my best friends are brain-damaged uranium miners.

All hell broke loose. Loyal miners' wives wrote letters to the editor proclaiming their husbands' mental competence. A wanted poster with Foreman's mug shot was taped to the wall above the Stop & Eat counter. I retaliated and bent a soup spoon and Bonnie drop-kicked me out the door.

It is difficult to say whether our leader should be beaten bloody with a rubber hose for maligning these folks who for reasons beyond their control ended up eeking out a living as slaves for some corporate creep, or whether he should be beaten for failing to mention all the other brain-damaged dolts around here. Christ, they are everywhere! Some of them even wear . . . yes, it's true . . . Patagonia jackets . . . The horror. The horror.

The Island in the Sky . . . A Last Gasp at Salvation

The curves are gone, the bumps and twists and turns, the way the road followed the land's contours instead of bisecting it. Or dissecting it. The Island in the Sky Road is fast becoming like any other Park road. Paved, smooth, gently curving, boring (where are you Henry Mota — if that's your real name, you thrill seeker?). If it hasn't already occurred, the first 12 miles will be paved shortly, from the knoll to the Y — where dirt roads still lead to Grandview Point and Upheaval Dome. Those are slated for asphalt next year and there seems to be little anyone can do about it. But there is another paving plan that has slipped by unnoticed and I think it's time to get loud. The Murphy Point "road" is actually a grassy centered little route to Heaven. Everyone assumed that this quiet dirt land would be left alone. Instead, it will get the same cruel treatment destined for the rest of the Island. With a 30 car parking lot at the "road terminus." NPS administrators have mumbled rather defensively that it would require a re-write of the general management plan to leave the road alone. Well fine, go to it boys. Paper work is your forte isn't it? God knows it isn't walking. And yes — you guessed it — let's all write a letter. Demand that the Murphy Point Road be left alone that a 30 car parking lot is ridiculous. What are they planning next? A Safeway? Leave it alone. Write to: Peter Parry, Canyonlands National Park, Moab, UT 84532.

Bears Ears To Be Chained

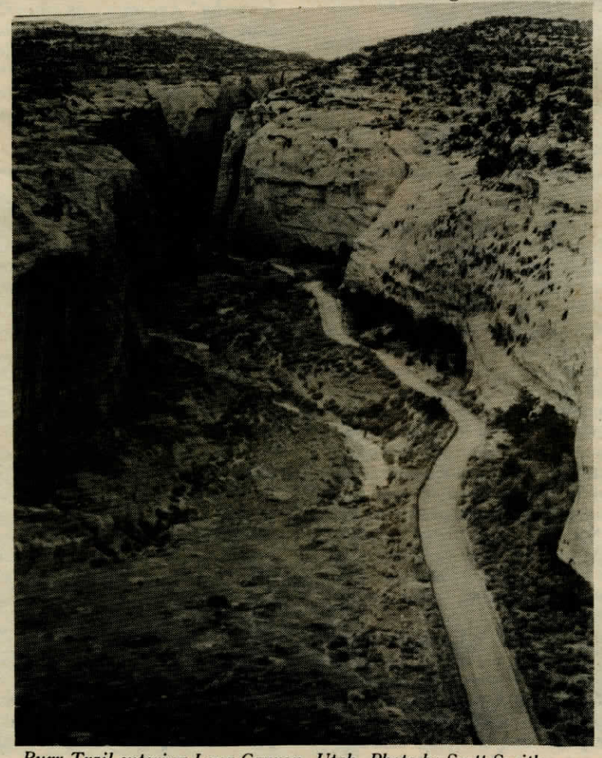
I know what you're saying. How can anyone disseminate so much good news? It is why I keep thinking about those beings from Betelgeuse. Again I turn to SUWA — Kincaid, Smith & Weed — for delaying this thing long enough for the rest of us to get mad. Quietly, surreptitiously, with a tiny notice in the *San Juan Record* (circ. 7), the Forest Service and the BLM planned to chain 1600 acres of pinyon/juniper forest around the Bears Ears. If you've ever been to Southeast Utah you know the Bears Ears. They tower over White Canyon and Natural Bridges. They can be seen for a hundred miles in almost any direction. And these government lackies representing us, the taxpayers, were drooling with anticipation so they could get out there and do some RANGE IMPROVEMENT. You see, poor old Melvin Dalton keeps stock on BLM land in the winter and moves his herd up to higher elevation in the summer, but the big lug needed a two week "transitional" grazing alottment in the spring. So Melvin said jump and the Forest Service, like Pavlov's dog, said how high?

But then . . . SUWA to the rescue. They appealed the decision, all the way to the Regional Supervisor. And lo & behold the appeal was upheld. But don't get too excited. It just means we all go back to square one. At least more people are aware of the latest covert operation. I guess they are thinking that chaining isn't such a great idea after all, and instead (God help me, but it's true) the FS wants to spray the 1600 acres with a defoliant. Back to 'Nam — Agent Orange. Madness. Madness.

So here's one last address for you. This can be a short one. Just tell those big dopes that you don't like them messing with the Bears Ears, or anybody else's ears for that matter. And tell them you want to be kept up to date on late-breaking "developments." Here's another address: Forest Supervisor, Manti-Lasal N.F., 599 West Price River Dr., Price, UT 84501.

It is 1:22 AM and I am weary. Pick your cause and write a letter. If the pen isn't mightier than the sword . . . well, it is best to keep both edges sharp. Remember the Alamo. Che lives in the hearts of women and men. Free the Chicago 7. Bring back Bert Parks.

After a long absence, our correspondent from southern Utah, The Head of Joaquin, has returned to enliven our pages with his cheery report. The Head resides in a jar of alcohol in the men's room at Milt's Diner in Moab.



Burr Trail entering Long Canyon, Utah. Photo by Scott Smith.

MOVING? SEND US YOUR NEW ADDRESS!

DEEP ECOLOGY SOUNDTRACK

PART IV: Indian Sings to Wolf

By Lone Wolf Circles

Soothing and seductive, or loud and powerful, it is the function of music to wrest your attention from trivial intellectualization. Like a clap of thunder or a sexy purring in the ear, music must leave the omnipresent commentator of the mind speechless. Whether accomplished with aggression or seduction, it is only with the flow of alleged reality and preconception halted, with the canvas clean, that the muse can enter to do its dance, to teach its individual expression of passionate awakeness. As the composer Lucia Dlugoszewski writes, "Such music is not expressing man instead of nature, nor nature instead of man, but man identical to perfect nature, bringing us to our very best . . . real, alive, free."

Every race, every culture has this ancestory of consciousness in common, staring out of similar womb-caves, over tribal fires to the powerful and mysterious world beyond; their teacher.

Various Pantheist religions with many faces, many names for Goddess or God, and yet each sharing the sacred view, the recognition of the spirit in the trees, rocks, and animals. Recognition of the illusion of mortality, the life in every element, each with a lesson and a rhythm, each with its own song. Rocks hum . . . a different vibration from each kind. Primal humans, too, each had their own song, like a medicine shield of musical notes, a spiritual self-portrait. There were also songs sung exclusively by the clan, those promoting tribal identity, and those performed in harmonic communion with all of creation. Songs set to the universal heartbeat, pounded out incessantly on skins stretched over hollowed wood: the womb again, the drum.

Spirituality is at the root of much of the music of the indigenous peoples of Africa, the Orient, and the Americas, blossoming still at the hands of those we call Indians. The first two-leggeds on this island continent sang to express emotions, to teach a way of being, to celebrate life and a oneness with the rest of nature. The ancients of the southwest US, where I make my home, carved and painted on the cliff faces the many manifestations of Kokopelli, the horned-one. The burdens and gifts of the world in his hunched back, always playing his spirit-flute; in a constant state of sexual excitement symbolizing preparedness, love, and fruition . . . Kokopelli continues to inspire, to jam, to dance.

Native American music creates the feeling of magic through sound, and the spaces between sounds. The effect is an accumulative sensuality, liberating the mind of the modern perceptual straightjacket, then building to a climax where the boundaries between humans and the rest of the natural world dissolve. Amerindian music is an invitation to the mysterious, not to be resolved but reveled in. Their songs celebrate absolutely every aspect of existence, from birth songs to those bravely composed pieces of existential verse one greets death with. In each is a sense of the cycles of nature, the cycles of rebirth.

A large selection of traditional styles can be found on the Indian House label, including the spellbinding "Flute Love Songs of the Lakota Sioux" by Kevin Locke, and on Canyon Records (4143 N 16th St., Phoenix, AZ 85016) who also produce the contemporary interpretations of A. Paul Ortega ("Two Worlds," APO-2C, and "Three Worlds," APO-3C) in which the drum effect is carried out instead on an electric bass. Ortega introduces each cut with a description in English of the song's history and meaning. Like my art, the intent is vital to the music. My favorite, written in part by a nine-year old boy is called "The Four Ways," in which he prays:

"Help me, O' Grandfather,
To fight my greatest enemy,
Which is myself."

The greatest block to our real learning, to real seeing and real hearing, is ourselves; the limitations set down by the tunnel-vision of our consciousness. The radicalism of the sixties found groups like Exile and Redbone presenting the Indian view in a rock and roll format. But the queen of popularized Indian music was Buffy Sainte-Marie. She was most effective when avoiding tunes of the slick folk genre, and concentrating, instead, on ethnic pieces combing the new with the old.

You can travel all alone,
Or you travel with me,
In the old way . . ."

Where are you now, Buffy? From "Star-Walker" (on "Sweet America," ABC #ABCD-929):

"Star-Walker, he's a friend of mine.
You've seen him looking fine.
He's a straight-talker,
He's a Star-Walker,
Don't drink no wine.
Wolf-Rider, she's a friend of yours.
You've seen her openin' doors.
She's a history-turner,
She's a sweet-grass burner,
And a Dog-Soldier, whoa-oooh-whoa—
Holy Light, guard the night,
Pray up your medicine song.
Straight nailer,
You're a spirit healer,
Keep going on."

The work of Floyd Westerman goes back as far. I saw him recently donating his energies at a benefit for the Treaty Council — a political step-child of AIM that presents the global-ecological-spiritual position of the earth's indigenous peoples in international forums including the United Nations. No left or right, East or West, but the unifying recognition of the sacred earth mother, and the valuable contribution of undiluted primal traditions. Not to be imitated, but to be used as an invitation to discover our own cultural inheritance. In a voice so deep you love or hate it, Floyd presents this message. His latest collection, entitled "La Tierra es tu Dadre," is a stirring collection with country flavor.

Lying between "Country" efforts by the Sioux, Buddy RedBow, is the spiritual and cultural manifesto "Journey To The Spiritual World" (Tatanka TLP-101, 6949 Hwy. 73, Evergreen, CO 80439). Utilizing sound effects and synthesizer, with Kevin Locke on flute. Songs of joy and sadness through the Indian eye, the primal eye. Songs about Wounded Knee, the provider the Buffalo, the ride on the Thunderbird . . . The travel of the soul. If he never creates another piece, this album can stand as a lasting contribution to both the message we seek to spread, and to music for its own sake.

I've been fortunate to hear him play, and even at a late-night Taos party he seems to take on the energies of the world. As he begins to play he rises out of the troubled mortal body, and almost floating above the chair, he sings to our hearts; frees the eagles of our souls to soar.

Carrying wisdom beyond his own, Marrion Three-Hawks recites rythmic poetry and prayer. I am honored that this Creek "Skin" is performing my poems with me, as well as mystical works of his own, on our new Earth First! production, the cassette "Full Circle." His words echo over the sounds of nature as if the ancient ones themselves were speaking to us from the tops of the mountains. There are beautiful songs played and sung by aesethetic white renegade Gary Boggs, and intricate guitar and flute by Donny Mallory, fading out to the drum beat and wolf howls symbolizing our interaction with nature, our Source.

Amerindian music, primal music, passes on to those who truly listen the only viable remedy to humanity's dilemma: sensitivity, living softly on the land, recognition of the sacred. It is the magical element in the works of the likes of anglo musicians Bill Oliver, Paul Winter, the members of "Ancient Future," that allows them to transcend preconception and heighten awareness.

Like a bolt of lightening, like the growl of a wolf — this is music that puts you back in touch with your senses; that blows petty commentary from your mind and leaves you thrilled to be alive.

REVIEWS (cont)

are a check on some prey populations through their predation on the more vulnerable old and sickly animals. This much espoused view is contradicted by a mass of recent evidence showing predation on the new-born and young animals of a population is usually of greater significance. As humans, our emotional reaction to preying on the young has probably delayed recognition and acceptance of this aspect of natural checks and balances.

In his criticism of management practices, Baker missed a few opportunities to strike a better balance in his presentation. Though most habitat manipulation is as detrimental to as many species as it is favorable, some has in fact helped to restore pre-civilization conditions. Foremost in this area is re-establishment of wetlands, so many of which were drained or otherwise eliminated by agriculture and flood control.

Though having no bearing on the substance of his arguments, minor errors like the "six-inch spikes" on a saguaro cactus are evidence of the author's eastern background and orientation (saguaro spines average an inch or less in length).

More serious than the factual erors are a couple of dubious value judgments. Though he supports unmanipulated habitat, Baker expresses shock that lightning-caused fires are allowed to run their course in some western forests. A little familiarity with fire ecology is in order.

Even more significantly, Baker would accept the extinction of a species if it "would not seriously disrupt ecosystems and if the procedures that would be used (to protect them) would result in adverse conditions for many members of non-endangered species." This statement seems at odds with the deeply ecological philosophy expressed thoughout the book.

The American Hunting Myth is unmistakably a work of importance that deserves the attention of hunters, scientists, anti-hunters and the environmental community at large.

Reviewed by J. Walker

A letter to the National Wildlife Federation

by Brian David Steinberg

The following is a portion of a letter by a disgruntled National Wildlife Federation member, dismayed at that group's overly-compromising attitudes, sent to NWF in August 1985:

I no longer want to belong to the National Wildlife Federation. I still believe that securing a National Wildlife Federation membership is one of the few positive acts a "sportsman" may perform during the course of his life. However, I am beginning to dislike your magazine. This is partly because of articles excusing poor management and its underlying cause, human insensitivity. I found two such articles in your August-September 1984 issue. One, "Birds of A Different Bill" bemoaned the loss of the ivory-billed woodpecker, but suspected that its demise was inevitable because it was somehow ecologically dumber than the pileated woodpecker. The other article "The Kite Hangs By a Thread" says it all in the abstract: "The endangered snail kite may be too specialized for its own good." Implied in the articles is the conviction that these birds are not viable species. People are therefore absolved of responsibility. True, your kite article does go on to detail the importance of sensitive management, but you never address the root of the problem — money hungry developers who are draining the Florida swamps at an alarming rate.

In the following issue, author Richard Wolkomir states that clear-cutting is good for moose. Fine. When do you plan to run an article specifying what clear-cutting is not good for, to wit, woodland caribou, elk, squirrels, porcupines, and of course trees? Two issues later, L. David Mech has the gall to suggest that after twenty years of research he can manage wolf-deer populations better than nature. He concludes, "wolf control can aid prey recover." That reads more like *Field and Stream* editorializing than sound ecological research.

Then there are those depressing Environmental Quality Indexes, year after year showing worsening conditions. You'd think by now someone would draw conclusions from the cumulative graphs. Maybe write, "Hey folks, the situation is going really badly. It's time for drastic action." Instead you print a cozy chat with Ronald Reagan. Additionally, you present nature hero legends — people who are single-handedly staving off environmental destruction. A good example is Harold Koopowitz, the biologist in "Frozen Assets" who travels the world collecting and preserving seeds from rare and endangered plants. Their native habitats will be wiped out but, by golly, these plants can still be found growing in a greenhouse near Irvine, California! No doubt the public will one day be charged admission to help finance the effort. I have no quarrel with Mr. Koopowitz, but the message from that article is clear: things are going to pieces.

Sincerely,
Brian David Steinberg

SPOTTED OWLS AND OLD GROWTH

Spotted owls have become a center of focus in the US Forest Service forest planning process. The Forest Service is now releasing its Forest Plans for each of its National Forests. The Forest Plans for California National Forests propose management practices (i.e. road-building and timber cutting) that will destroy most of the habitat of California's spotted owls. Environmentalists have an opportunity to fight the USFS's bad intentions by commenting on Plans for their local Forests, and when doing so, it is effective to use the spotted owl as a focal point of the comments. Here is a little background information on spotted owls and forest management to assist in writing comments.

Scientists recognize three subspecies of spotted owl: the California spotted owl found in the Cascade and Sierra ranges (primarily on the west slope) from north-central Tehama and northern Plumas counties in north-central California, south to the Southern Calilfornia mountain ranges; the northern spotted owl found from southwestern British Columbia along the Coast and Cascade Ranges south to Marin and Siskiyou counties in California; and the Mexican spotted owl found from central Colorado, southern Utah and extreme west Texas south in Mexico to the mountains 100 miles northwest of Mexico City.

The first attempts at management of the spotted owl were conducted by the FS in the mid 1970s. Several timber sales in the Klamath National Forest were modified to leave 40-80 acres of old-growth forest intact around owl nest sites. This was done because the spotted owl was included on the FS's newly created sensitive species list. The species on this list were judged to have populations adversely affected by normal FS activities, such as timber harvesting. The idea was to manage these species to maintain viable populations over known and/or historic ranges and to keep them from being added to the federal threatened or endangered species list.

When the National Forest Management Act was passed in 1976, one of the key stipulations was for each region and

Photo by Michael Williams

Forest to develop a 10 year management plan. In September 1979, the guidelines for formulating and implementing these plans were published in the Federal Register. The goal of this planning process was to manage the Forests on an ecosystem basis, establish goals for sustained yield of products and services resulting from multiple-use management without impairment of the productivity of the land. The specific stipulations for wildlife at the regional level include a provision to maintain or improve wildlife habitat and improve critical and essential habitats of threatened or endangered plant and animal species. On the Forest level, wildlife habitats were to be managed to maintain viable populations of all existing native vertebrate species and to maintain and improve habitat of management indicator species. It further stated that managment indicator species would be selected whose population changes were believed to indicate effects of management activities on other species of a major biological community. Population trends of these indicator species would be monitored and relationships to habitat changes determined.

The spotted owl needs lots of old-growth forest. It is considered a sensitive species, the FS has the legal mandate to manage it to keep it off the endangered species list, it is a management indicator species in the Forest planning effort and its habitat must be improved. However, timber interests oppose the FS's duty to protect the spotted owl.

Timber has long been a major industry in the Pacific Northwest. Over the past 100 years heavy harvesting has occurred especially on private lands controlled by large forest product companies. Their policy has been to remove the old-growth forest, replant, then harvest on a 50-100 year cycle (instead of 250 years that it takes to grow old-growth). This rotation would be accomplished by intensive management practices including planting trees, brush control, several pre-commercial and commercial thinnings, fertilization and harvest by clearcut. Essentially we would have vast acreages of tree farms.

By 1980 almost all of the old-growth had been removed from private lands and very little of the land cut earlier was ready to harvest (and won't be until about 2010-2030), so timber companies requested that the FS pick up the "slack" for the next 30-50 years by allowing them to cut the remaining old-growth on National Forest lands. For the most part, the FS timber interests favor this approach because it allows the timber "shop" to "get out" their target cut and allows the silviculture "shop" to practice the high technology tree farming methods they learned in school. It also aids (superficially) the local and national economy and enables the individual foresters to live happily with the loggers and mill workers in the small communities to which their jobs have taken them. As a result of all these factors, there is a great deal of pressure to liquidate the old-growth forests which are viewed by foresters as a decadant, non-productive systems, and replace them with young, "vigorous," "highly productive" ones.

With this background information, effective comments on California Forest Plans can be compiled. In your comments, it is useful to ask the Freddies some difficult questions. Here are questions you can ask when you are reviewing the individual Forest's proposals. For some of these questions you will already know the answer. You can use these to judge the accuracy of answers for questions for which you don't know the answers.

1)What per cent of the Forest has been censused for spotted owls? Actually what the Forests have done is a survey. A census is a complete count and none of the Forests have done that. Also ask how the survey was done. Did they just do a calling survey, or did they actually find the nesting groves? If all that has been done is a calling survey you probably have biased sample since non-mated owls respond most vigorously to tapes; non-breeding but mated birds respond less; and breeding birds respond least of all (sort of like humans in a bar). The overall response rate to these calling surveys is only 25%. If areas have not been visited several times the results are suspect.

2) What percent of the "best estimate" of spotted owl numbers are they proposing to keep?

3) How were the keepers determined? Keepers are those owls which the Forest Service plans to save by leaving their habitat intact.

4) Have the keepers been censused? The answer should be yes, yet in many Forests this census has not been done. If they answer no, they are in violation of the regional guidelines. Call Dean Carrier of the FS (415-556-3126) to complain.

5) Have the nesting core habitat and replacement core areas been mapped? Where is the nesting grove within the core? In most cases they won't have the answer to this, so ask them why they are confident that the nest site lies within that individual core area.

6) How are FS plans being implemented? Where are timber sales planned in the Forest? What percentage of existing mature habitat is proposed to be cut? How much of the core habitat of spotted owls is to be cut or has been cut? The answer should be none, but forest planners don't always have good communication with district timber management officers. Ask to see timber sale plans for the last 10 and the next 10 years for areas around several of the keepers on each district on your Forest. If timber sales have been proposed for the habitat of proposed keepers, call Dean Carrier again.

In California, the average reduction in spotted owl populations is 65% from current levels if Forest Plans are implemented. This means that of every 100 pairs of owls, 35 will kept and 65 will have their habitat removed in the process of timber management. FS plans would maintain only a total of 249 pairs of northern spotted owls and 265 pairs of California spotted owls (Sierra population only) from the current totals of about 750 and 800 pairs.

One final note: special attention should be paid to California's southern mountain forests where all spotted owls are going to be protected. The few timber sales there may be impacting the small amount of available habitat.

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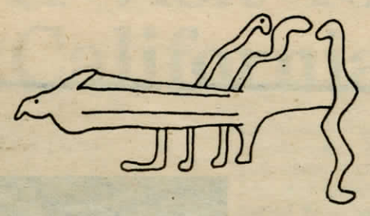
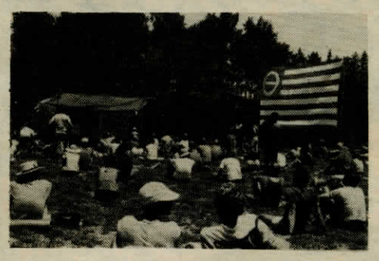
ARMED WITH VISIONS



CLOUDS

Not mine.
He was Steve's friend.
I want to say the land
opened to receive him
like a mother in her grief
folding warmth around his body.
His body cooling into meat.
It's foolish. Meat.
They don't batter in the head of
a calf. Butchers are humane.
Not repeated blows.
Multiple wounds.
And a lie.
They never buried him.
Just dumped the body
on a street in Antigua
I'd like to say he was folded
into the warmth of his mother.
I have this image of red Indian
corn, black, striped with color, white,
being gently pushed into the soil.
The image doesn't fit.
Kai Yutah Clouds was also split.
Also known as Viet Nikolaus Stoscheck.
Algonquin and Dutch.
No image fits.
Steve writes to me about
how he sent off for several kinds
of Indian corn and when he holds
the seed I know he knows
that through reverence for the life
it contains he bridges distance, time
and is part of a ritual
Algonquin, even Dutch, peasant Dutch,
and Guatemalan, Indian.
Steve looks at the mix of seed
and can recall his friend
when he opens the hole in the ground
when he pushes the dirt to fill it.
I didn't even know him.
I have no act, ritual to keep out the image
from the bulletin in Steve's letter,
from my readings, from Orwell.
The security forces and a boot.
Orwell's image, a boot.
Guatemalan government officials used a
pistol.
stomping, Orwell's image
pounding, Guatemalan officials
battering, the images combine
smashing in
they drug him into a red Honda
stomping on
over a hundred people witnessed
his face
forever
on his face
forever

JOE NAPORA
Oxford



THE SECOND COMING

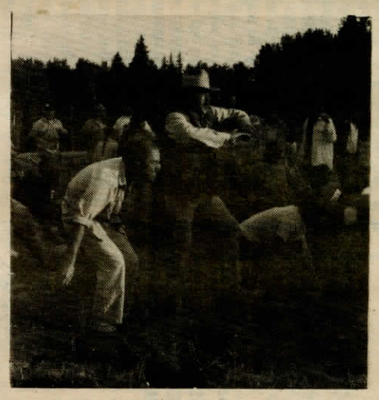
The sun rose with colors of pink and red. The people moved quickly for there was much to be done. They had sidewalks to sweep , mail to deliver, feathers to be cleaned, and noses to be picked. Each had her own job to do. They all moved like ants, moved like dust particles in a ray of light . Moved like the atoms of destruction in nuclear fusion. And things began to make sense.

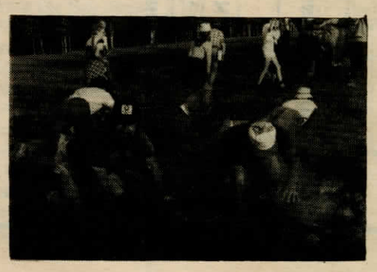
The streetlights were taken down and lighthouses put in their place. The streets were covered with a plush yellow sidewalk to sidewalk carpet. The clouds were taken down and strings of pearls put in their place. They tore down buildings and put up white sidewalls. The aircraft carrier off shore was beached and made into a playground for the children (all weapons being replaced with libraries and mountains).

The park was dug up and the people planted a reflection. They brought colors and reality to keep it in. All kitchen sinks were removed from the houses and replaced with true to life statues of richard nixon. They gathered all the vehicles together and sent them off to mainland china. The time was drawing near soon he would be here. Would he use a buffalo this time or maybe fly in on a theory (although they aren't as safe as a hypothesis). Parking meter s were lined up and given bonnets.

The strings of pearls swayed and slithered with the wind the opals parted and the sapphires bowed and then they saw him. Riding in a foreign policy. And the people cheered. Their dreams were fulfilled.

REBECCA L. MOY
North Las Vegas





Indian Summer

A robin's love call
On a pine tree top

Indian summer

Today
Somewhere
Somebody
Makes a nuclear bomb
Just to kill you

Indian summer

Three
Tiny
Yellow flowers of
Dandelion

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THE AMERICAN HUNTING MYTH

Ron Baker

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by Ron Baker

Every day in North America more than *half a million* wild animals are killed as a result of the combined efforts of recreational hunters, state and federal wildlife managers, and "varmint" shooters. Tens of thousands of other animals are wounded or crippled by bullets or arrows or are maimed by steel traps or suffer slow deaths from poisoning. Hunters and government wildlife officials call these enterprises "wildlife management," but many naturalists and ecologists, including Ron Baker, consider these practices cruel and irresponsible.

In his book *The American Hunting Myth*, Baker examines the so-called "sport" of hunting and the destructive system that state and federal wildlife agencies use to perpetuate it. One by one, he convincingly refutes the arguments that hunters and wildlife officials use to defend recreational hunting. He graphically illustrates how greed for more funding by state game bureaus results in environmentally destructive practices; how politicians on both the state and federal levels use their influence to expand public hunting; how traditional beliefs about nature are partly responsible for the nonecological educations received by college and university students who train to become wildlife biologists and wildlife managers and how this training ensures land and wildlife mismanagement practices; how game management creates artificial "surpluses" of hunted species, which often exist to the detriment of nongame and endangered wildlife; how controlled hunting often *increases* deer starvation; how the killing of so-called "nuisance" animals is destructive to species and ecosystems; how many species that are rare, threatened, or endangered are legally killed by American hunters; how the current system of managing wildlife has been a biological, ecological, and social disaster; how a significant percentage of hunters oppose a wilderness ethic; how nonhunting citizens unintentionally support the hunting lobby with their money; how hunting results in innumerable violations of nonhunters' constitutional rights; how hunting often helps to foster an insensitivity to life that sometimes results in violence and criminality; the *real* reasons why people hunt; how hunting could be phased out in favor of sound wildlife management practices; and, finally, what *you* can do to help end the carnage and ensure a humane stewardship over America's wildlife.

The American Hunting Myth is not a chronicle of sensationalized horror stories. It is an unemotional and meticulously researched work. It is both a vehicle that points the way to reform and a plea for the development of an environmental ethic before time runs out for wildlife *and ourselves*.

Cover art by Cynthia Hill

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About the Author

Ron Baker has had an intense interest in the outdoors that has spanned most of his forty-two years. A serious student of wildlife for most of his adult life, he began crusading for animals and the environment during the late 1960s. Among his many other projects, he campaigned in Vermont for the curtailment of snowmobile and ORV use in that state's wilderness areas. In rural Massachusetts, he helped to plan legal action to halt construction of both a highway and a pipeline, each of which would have destroyed thousands of acres of natural lands. He is the former editor and publisher of *Backwoods Journal*, a nature-appreciation quarterly, and a frequent contributor to *Agenda*, the news magazine of the Animal Rights Network. He is an active member of several animal protection and environmental organizations and serves as vice-president of the White Plains (New York)–based, 2,000-member Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting. He lives with his wife in a log cabin in the Adirondack wilderness of northern New York State.

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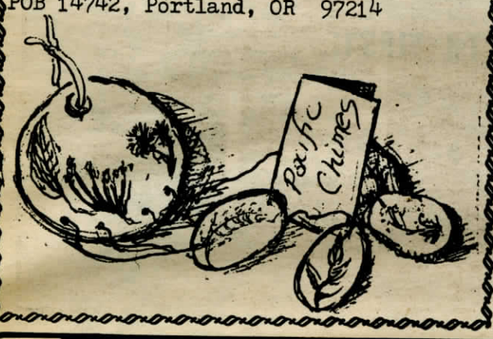

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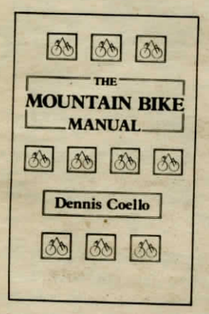

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Yes, back issues of *Earth First!* are available for $1 apiece (to cover our postage and handling expenses). Some of the early issues are already out of print and numbers are running low on others, so order those you wish now.

YULE Dec. 21, 1981 (Vol. II, No. II) First Earth First! Road Show; Oil Leasing in Wilderness Areas; EF! Preserve System; Many early photos of Earth First!.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1982 (Vol. II, No. III) Earth First! by Dave Foreman (reprinted from *The Progressive*); letters from *Progressive* readers; Oil Leasing in Wilderness Areas.

EOSTAR March 20, 1982 (Vol. II, No. IV) Mardie Murie Interview; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; EF! meeting in Eugene.

BELTANE May 1, 1982 (Vol. II, No. V) Little Granite Creek Drilling Controversy; GO Road; John Crowell; Western Civilization by Chim Blea; Monkeywrenching Seismo Crews; Jail: A Primer.

LITHA June 21, 1982 (Vol. II, No. VI) Little Granite Creek; Moab Roads a BLM WSA; Chim Blea on Babies; Dinkey Creek & McKinley Sequoias; What To Do as an EF!er; Caribou in Maine.

LUGHNASADH Aug. 1, 1982 (Vol. II, No. VII) Rendezvous at Little Granite Creek; Dustrud Resigns as *EF!* Editor; Gary Snyder on Violence; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; Little Granite Survey Stakes Pulled.

MABON Sept. 21, 1982 (Vol. II, No. VIII) ***Out Of Print***

SAMHAIN Nov. 1, 1982 (Vol. III, No. I) BLM Rotten in Utah by Clive Kincaid; Ed Abbey on Books & Gurus; Bob Marshall's 1927 Inventory of Big Wilderness; Dear Ned Ludd/Closing Roads; Foreman Runs for Sierra Club Board; Mama Rue on Samhain; Bill Devall on Nuclear War; Foreman on Endangered Species & Wilderness; How To Do An EF! Wilderness Proposal.

YULE/BRIGID Dec. 21, 1982 (Vol. III, No. II) Salt Creek Blockade; Nightcap Blockade in Australia; Bisti Mass Trespass; Howie Wolke on *Real* Wilderness; Ned Ludd/Closing Roads; Foreman on Primeval Wilderness Management; Bill Devall on Earth Bonding; Foreman on Books; Ed Abbey on Pigs; Mama Rue on Yule; Wilderness & the Bible; Juniper Chaining in Utah; Bisti.

EOSTAR March 21, 1983 (Vol. III, No. III) Franklin River Blockade in Australia; Salt Creek Blockade; GO Road and Bald Mt Road; Chim Blea on Domestication; Howie Wolke on RARE III; Bisti Circus; Deciduous Forest Ecosystem Preserve; Nightcap Blockade Photos (Australia); EF! White Cloud Wilderness Proposal(Idaho); Ned Ludd/Cutting Torch; Howie Wolke on the Wilderness Act; Road Show Diary; EF! in Sonora; Spurs Jackson on Books; Ed Abbey on The Big Woods; Navajo Sam; Nagasaki Johnson on Tactics; Mama Rue on Eostar; Creative Littering.

BELTANE May 1, 1983 (Vol. III, No. IV) Bald Mt Blockade; GO Road; Howie Wolke on Moderation; EF! Wyoming Wilderness Proposal; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; Maze Tar Sands; EF! Smashes Earth Last!; Ned Ludd/Helicopters; California Desert Sellout by BLM; Otter G'Zell on Whales; Mama Rue on Beltane; *Reenchantment of the World* Review; John Seed on Australia Rainforest Direct Action; Bigfoot Interview.

LITHA June 21, 1983 (Vol. III, No. V) Wilderness War in Oregon; Bald Mt Blockaders' Personal Accounts; Mama Rue on Summer Solstice; EF! Wilderness Preserve System and Map; Head of Joaquin on Utah; EF! Glen Canyon Demonstration; Franklin River Victory in Australia; Ned Ludd/Radios; GO Road Stopped; Reform of the Forest Service; Ed Abbey on Conscience of the Conqueror.

LUGHNASADH Aug. 1, 1983 (Vol. III, No. VI) Bald Mt Road Stopped!; Round River Rendezvous; Marcy Willow: You; Chim Blea on Population Control; Photos of EF! Glen Canyon Demo; The Endangered Rainforest by John Seed; Watt Enters Coyote (A Greek Tragedy) by Marc Brown; John Seed on Anthropocentrism; EF! and Dignity; Mama Rue on Lughnasadh.

MABON Sept. 21, 1983 (Vol. III, No. VII) ***OUT OF PRINT***

SAMHAIN Nov. 1, 1983 (Vol. IV, No. I) Sinkyone Redwood Blockade; EF! National Forest Campaign; Rainforest Burgers by Roselle; Bald Mt in Retrospect; EF!: The First 3 Years (with many photos); Howie Wolke on the Forest Service; *Conservation Biology* review; The Battle of Salt Creek (an epic poem) by Marcy Willow; Watt's Last EIS.

YULE Dec. 22, 1983 (Vol. IV, No. II) Forest Service Attacks Wilds, National RARE II Suit, DARN Report, Wolke on the Forest Service; EF! Utah Wilderness Proposal; EF! Ishi Wilderness Proposal (California); How To Do An EF! Wilderness Proposal; Ed Abbey in Utah; EF! Black Rock Desert Wilderness Proposal(Nevada); Sinkyone Struggle; Greenpeace in Siberia; *An Ecological & Evolutionary Ethic* Review; Coors "Beer;" Chim Blea on the Humanpox; Ned Ludd/Vehicle Modifications.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. III) Oregon RARE II Suit; EF! Idaho Wilderness Proposal; Tuolumne; Forest Service Arrogance; Ned Ludd/Smoke Bombs; Head of Joaquin on Trapping; Coors in Shenandoah.

EOSTAR March 20, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. IV) Burger King Protest; Shipwrecked Environmentalism; Solomon Island Rainforest Action; Bald Mt Road Crumbles; Southern Utah Wilderness; Dave Brower/Muir's Disciple by Bill Devall; Ned Ludd/Tree Spiking & No Evidence; Mama Rue on Enlightenment; 1984 Road Show; Photos of Daintree Buried Protestors.

BELTANE May 1, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. V) Cabinet Mts Grizzlies & Mining; Forest Service Appeals Form; Wolke on the Role of EF!; EF! Owyhee Wilderness Proposal(Idaho, Oregon & Nevada); Angel Dusting Grizzlies; Middle Santiam; Colorado Recreation Dollars; EF! Arizona Wilderness Proposal; Arctic Wildlife Refuge Violated; Bolt Weevils; Devall on the Australian Environmental Movement; Ned Ludd/Survey Stakes & Disabling Vehicles; Deep Ecology & Reproduction; Save the Tuolumne Rally.

LITHA June 20, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. VI) Middle Santiam Blockade; Chim Blea on the Big Outside; Cabinet Mts & Grizzly; Coors in Shenandoah; Saguaro National Monument Mine; Murder on Key Largo; Burger King Demonstrations; Daintree Rainforest; Ned Ludd/Rising & Falling Birds; EF! Protests Canyonlands Nuke Dump; *Sterile Forest* Review; Basic Principles of Deep Ecology; Sinkyone Continues.

LUGHNASADH Aug. 1, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. VII) Middle Santiam Blockade; EF! Occupies Montana Senator's Office; North American Bioregional Congress; Round River Rendezvous; Montana on Civil Disobedience; Petroleum Conflicts with Wilderness Analyzed; Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About The Forest Service Part 1 by Bobcat; Sacred Cows; Foreman on Professionalism; Hunting Wild Life; Devall and Sessions on the Books of Deep Ecology.

SAMHAIN Nov. 1, 1984 (Vol. V, No. I) EF! Occupies Regional Forester's Office (Oregon); Hardesty Avengers Spike Trees; Old Growth Rally; "What Do You Expect To Accomplish?"; Cop Raid on Bald Mt; Your Taxes Destroy Rainforest; Down (With) The Amazon; Green Politics; Elfbusters; Roxby Downs in Australia; Wilderness — the Global Connection; Ned Ludd/Water & Machines; Forest Service Appeal Form; Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About The Forest Service Part 2 by Bobcat; Direct Action by Devall & Sessions; Gary Snyder: Song of the Taste; Beyond Sacred Cows; Stiles in Defense of Dogs.

YULE Dec. 21, 1984 (Vol. V, No. II) Texas Wilderness Logged; 30,000 Miles of Road in RARE II Areas; Bridger-Teton Forest Supervisor; Alaska: Kadashan, Denali, & Johnny Sagebrush; Middle Santiam Trials; Japan Grizzly; German Nuke Dump; Chipko; Solomon Islands Rainforest; Daintree Rainforest Buried Protest; Environmental Professionalism Discussion; 1984: Wilderness Boom or Bust?; A National Range Service; Non-Game; Devall on Whither Environmentalism?; Cecelia Ostrow on Deep Ecology; Hardesty Mt Tree Spiking; Ed Abbey on *Ecodefense*.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1985 (Vol. V, No. III) Meares Island; Military Land Grab in West (Supersonic Overflights); Mission Symposium; FS Employment Tyranny; National Park Mining; Florida Panther; Shooting Wolves from Air; Cathedral Forest Petition; North Kalmiopsis; Criticizing the Environmental Movement; End of the Yellowstone Grizzly?; In Defense of Western Civilization; Stop Planting Trout; Ned Ludd/Bigfoot.

EOSTAR March 20, 1985 (Vol. V, No. IV) Rocky Mountain Gas Drilling; EF! Gives DOE Nuke Waste; Montana Wilderness Demos; Yellowstone Grizzly Management; Texas Demo; Rainforest Report; Swedish River; Wayne NF; Southern Utah; King Range; Arctic NWR Desecrated; Joseph Canyon; John Day Mining; Great Exchange; Acid Rain; In Defense of Humor; Wolke on Hunting; Nagasaki on Symbols & Lifestyles; Biocentrism of Western Civilization; Ned Ludd/Advanced Billboarding.

BELTANE May 1, 1985 (Vol. V, No. V) Yellowstone's Watergate, Snowmobiles in Yellowstone, Alabama Wilderness, Denali Mine, Grand Canyon Mine, Middle Santiam, Welfare Ranchers, Great Exchange, Welcome to Earth First!, Critters Protest Bighorn Forest Plan, RNR Management, Beaverhead NF, Pine Beetles, African Parks Poisoned, Real Environmental Professionalism, Dark Side of Wilderness, Review of *Fragmented Forest*.

LITHA June 21, 1985 (Vol. V, No. VI) Road Frenzy, Tree Climbing Hero, Old Growth Actions in Oregon, EF! Guide to NF Planning, Aircraft in Grand Canyon, Mt. Graham Observatory, Jarbidge Elk, Hells Canyon, Grand Canyon Mine, Rainforest Insert & Ten Questions, King Range, Mike Frome on Fat Cat Conservationists, Review of *Meeting the Expectations of the Land*, Review of *In the Rainforest*, Strategic Monkeywrenching, Advanced Tree Spiking, Tyrone (WI) Nuke.

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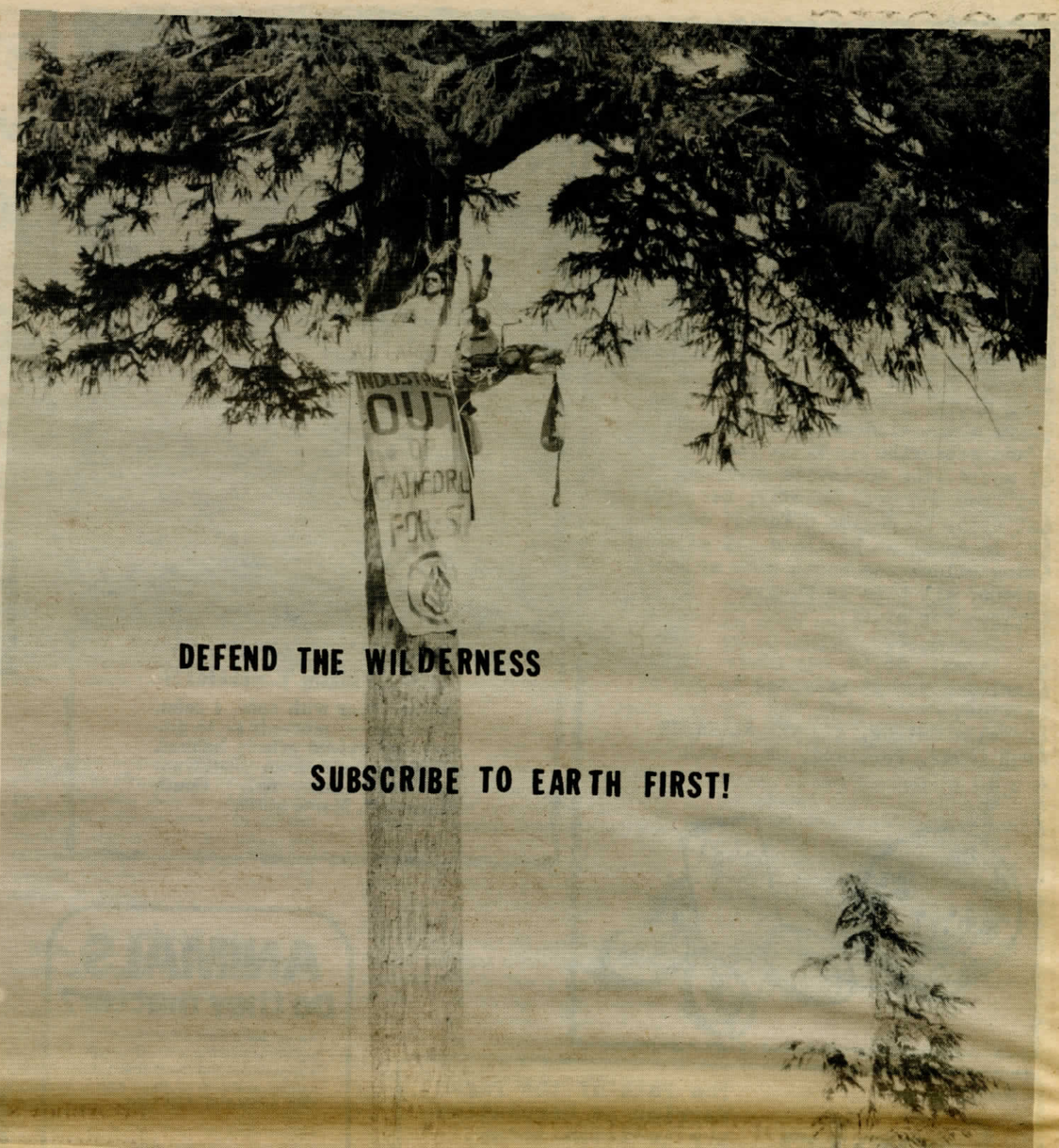

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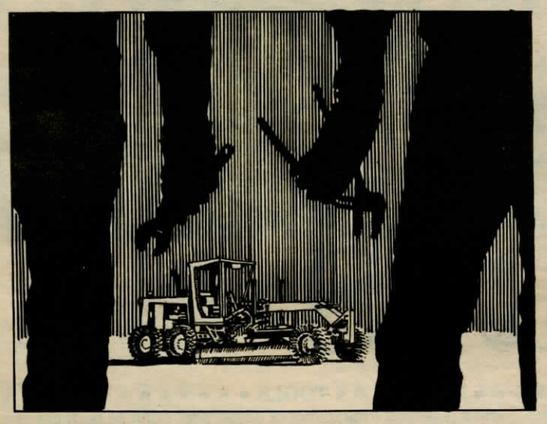

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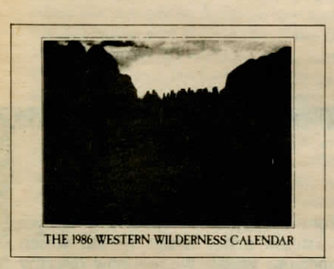

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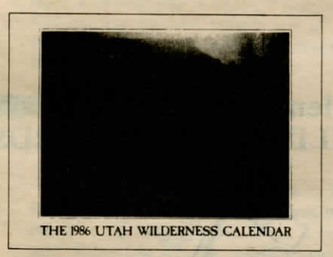

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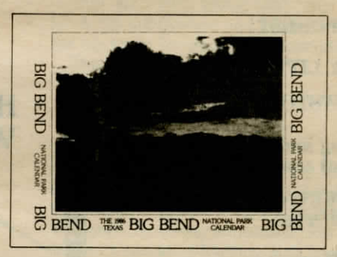

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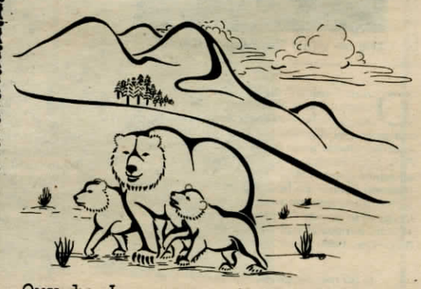

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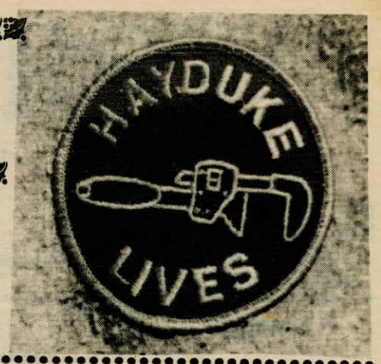

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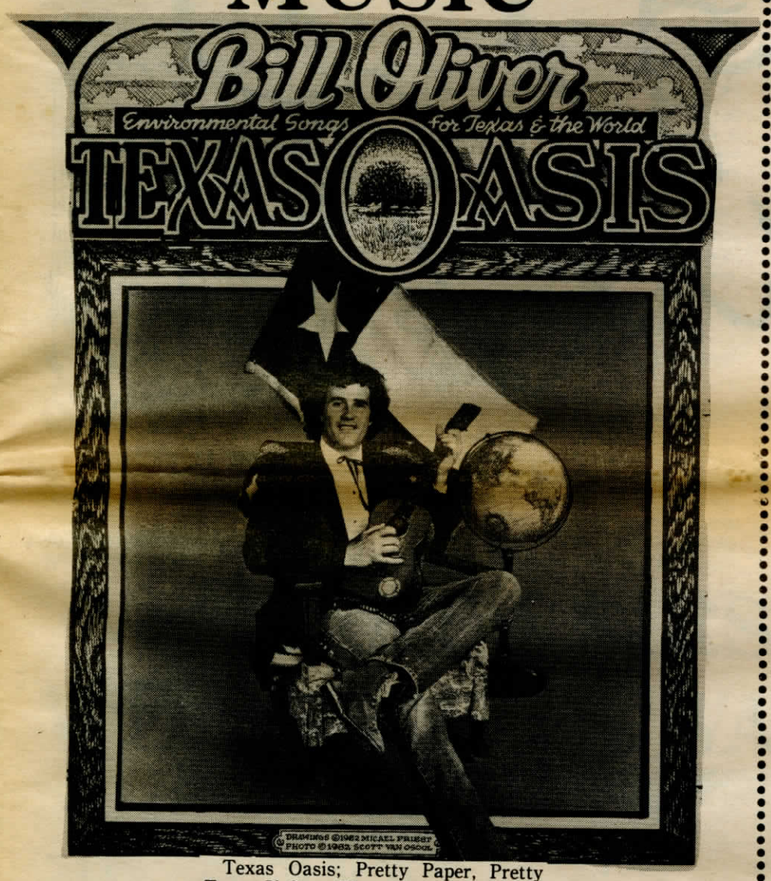

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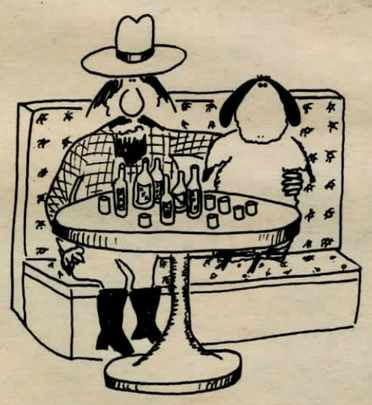

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